



COMHAIRLE CONTAE  
CHEATHARLACH

---

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

September 3rd, 2025

**Notice Of Meeting**

You are requested to attend **Council Meeting** to be held on **Monday, 8th September 2025** at **2:00 pm** in **Council Chamber, Council Offices, Athy Road, Carlow.**

---

**F. Byrne,**

**Senior Executive Officer/Meetings Administrator.**

# Agenda

## 1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí of meeting held on Monday 14th July 2025

📎 *DraftJuly2025CouncilMeetingMinutes.pdf*

Page 1

## 2.0 Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó rúin an Chomhairle

### 2.1 Local Community Safety Partnership - Appointment of Members. Presentation from Barry Knowles

📎 *LCSP.pdf*

Page 12

### 2.2 Approval of Travel to:-

- (i) Tempe Arizona
- (ii) Rhuddlan, Wales
- (iii) Velenje Slovenia

### 2.3 Planning & Development Act 2000 - Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 - Section 183 (1) - Disposal of site and premises situate at 38 Kennedy Street, Carlow.

📎 *Disposal 38 Kennedy Street Signed S183 Notice.pdf*

Page 14

📎 *Disposal 38 Kennedy Street Land Transfer Map.pdf*

Page 15

### 2.4 To approve overdraft accommodation for year ended 31st December 2026

📎 *Overdraft Accomodation 2026 (Ver Fin).pdf*

Page 16

📎 *Overdraft Offer Letter 8 Aug 2025.pdf*

Page 17

### 2.5 Agree dates for the 2026 Budget Meetings

- Proposed: Budget Briefing/Workshop at 11.30 a.m. on Friday 21st November 2025
- Statutory Budget Meeting at 2.00 p.m. on Friday 21st November 2025

### 2.6 “To consider Proposed Variation No. 2 (Draft Muine Bheag / Royal Oak District Town Plan 2025) of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Chief Executive’s Report on submissions received pursuant to Section 13(5) Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)”.

📎 *CE Report Variation No2 Draft Muinebheag Royal Oak District Town Plan.pdf*

Page 39

**2.7 Section 11 Roads Act 1993; Section 180 Planning & Development Act 2010 as amended and Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act 2010 - Commencement of the public consultation process for taking in charge of roads and services at:**

1. Chaff Lane, Chaff Street, Graiguecullen Carlow.
2. Monastery Court (Units 1 - 6) Tullow, Co. Carlow

 *Scanned signed report 1 to Council - Intention to commence TIC.pdf* *Page 105*

 *Map - Chaff Lane, Chaff Street, Graiguecullen.pdf* *Page 106*

 *Map - Monastery Court, Tullow.pdf* *Page 107*

### **3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Mholtaí**

**3.1 Presentation from Family Carers Ireland at 4.30 p.m.**


**3.2 Training & Conference Approval**

 *Conference Training Listing at Pleanary Meeting September 2025 (002).pdf* *Page 108*

### **4.0 Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh**

 *JULY AUGUST 2025 Chief Executives Report.pdf* *Page 109*

### **5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras**

 *Correspondence.pdf* *Page 158*

### **6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin**

**6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. J. Cassin**

"I propose that the Government reconsider and scrap the current plans for any redevelopment, commercialization, or construction for the GPO in Dublin.

The GPO stands as the most iconic landmark, symbolizing not only Ireland's national identity but also its rich history, most notably in relation to the Easter Rising of 1916. The historical significance of this site cannot be overstated, and as such, any proposed alterations or developments risk undermining both its cultural and historical value."

**6.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. W. Paton**

"Noting that the Irish Post Office Network is the provider of essential government services, particularly for vulnerable individuals and families who may not have digital literacy or access to online platforms, that Carlow County Council calls on the Government to commit to investing €15 million annually in the Irish Post Office Network."

### **6.3 Standing in the name of Cllr. J. Cassin**

Opposition to the Proposed Increase in College Fees in Ireland

That this Council notes:

The significant financial pressure currently facing students and families across Ireland in accessing third-level education.

Ireland has some of the highest college fees in the European Union.

That rising costs of living, accommodation, and transport are compounding the financial challenges for students and their families.

That increasing college fees would act as a further barrier to higher education participation, particularly for students from rural, lower-income, and marginalised communities.

This Council further believes:

That higher education should be affordable and accessible to all, regardless of background or income.

That education is a fundamental public good and investment in our young people is essential for the social and economic wellbeing of our communities.

Carlow County Council resolves to:

Oppose any proposed increase in college or university fees in Ireland.

Write to the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, and to the Taoiseach, expressing this Council's opposition to any increase in college fees.

Support local students' unions and representative groups in their campaigns against fee increases.

A copy of this motion be circulated to all other County and City Councils, inviting them to adopt a similar stance.

## **7.0 Any other business with the consent of the Cathaoirleach/Aon**

**gnó eile le haontú an Chathaoirligh**

**Minutes of July Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the  
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow  
on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 2.00 p.m.**

**Present:**

Councillor F. Browne  
Councillor J. Cassin *Remotely*  
Councillor A. Dalton  
Councillor J. Deane  
Councillor P. Doogue  
Councillor M. Doran  
Councillor A. Gladney  
Councillor T. Kinsella  
Councillor K. Murnane Cathaoirleach  
Councillor C. Murphy  
Councillor B. O'Donoghue  
Councillor W. Paton  
Councillor D. Pender  
Councillor J. Pender  
Councillor F. Phelan  
Councillor W. Quinn  
Councillor A. Wallace  
Councillor B. Ward *Remotely*

**In attendance:**

Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive  
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services  
Mr. K. Cullinane, A/Director of Services  
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services  
Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Services  
Mr. P. J. Leonard, Director of Finance  
Ms. F. Byrne, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. M. Griffin, Administrative Officer  
Ms. S. Corrigan, Staff Officer  
Ms. A. Sweeney, Senior Planner  
Ms. S. O'Neill, Administrative Officer  
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Economic Development & Enterprise  
Mr. L. Carroll, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*  
Mr N. Carroll, A/Senior Executive Engineer *Remotely*  
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*  
Mr. T. Madden, Acting Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*  
Mr. C. Madden, A/Senior Executive Engineer *Remotely*  
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer *Remotely*  
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*  
Ms. N. Lawlor, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*  
Ms. J. O'Brien, Climate Officer *Remotely*

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

Kearney Family on the death of their son and brother, Ryan Kearney, Ballinaboley, Leighlinbridge, Carlow.

Mrs. Kate Jordan and family on the death of Bernard “Everton House”, Old Derrig, Carlow.

Ms. Bernadine Callinan on the death of her father Joe, “The Field”, Pollerton Little, Carlow.

Mrs. Teresa McEvoy and family on the death of her husband John, Ashgrove, Carlow.

John and Jessica Maguire on the death of their mother Sharon, Oakview, Carlow.

Walsh Family on the death of their mother Bernadette , Cois Abhainn, Burrin Road, Carlow.

### **Votes of Congratulations**

Congratulations to the organisers of the hugely successful Columbanus Weekend which was held on 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025. The collaboration from Carlow Tourism, Carlow County Council, local groups and the Myshall Community made the event run extremely efficiently for the weekend. Letter of congratulations to be issued to Bishop Denis Nulty, Father David Kenneally and Eileen O’Rourke, Carlow Tourism.

Congratulations to John Paul Payne and committee on the success of the Carlow Pride Festival 2025.

Congratulations to the Nigeria Community Group on Culture Day which was held on 5<sup>th</sup> July in An Gairdin Beo.

Congratulations to Carlow Community Games and the successful event in Ardattin.

Congratulations to Tinryland GFC on the organisation of the Southeast Sevens annual tournament.

### **1.1 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí**

**Approval of Minutes of monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

**Proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue,  
Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That the Minutes of the June monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 2.00 p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed”.

## **1.2 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí**

### **Approval of Minutes of Annual meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Dalton,**

**Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed: -

“That the Minutes of the Annual meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 4.00 p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed”.

## **2.0 Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó rúin an Chomhairle**

### **2.1 Approval of Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2025 – 2029**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan,**

**Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran,**

Following a roll call, it was agreed: -

“We the Members of Carlow County Council having considered the Chief Executives report on the Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2025 – 2029, in accordance with the provisions of Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the members agree, by resolution, to make the Plan, as recommended by the Chief Executive at the Council Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025 on the proposal of Councillor Fintan Phelan, seconded by Councillor Michael Doran, with all 18 members voting in favour to proceed in accordance with Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to publish notice of the making of the Development Contribution Scheme 2025 – 2029, effective date of the Development Contribution Scheme 2025 -2029 being 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025.”

<b>Member of Carlow County Council</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fergal Browne	√			



John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane	√			
Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			
Ben Ward	√			

The result was 18 For. The Development Contribution Scheme 2025 – 2029 was passed.

## **2.2 Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) Queen of the Universe - Safe Routes to School Scheme, Long Range Road, Bagenalstown**

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Gladney,  
Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) Queen of the Universe - Safe Routes to School Scheme, Long Range Road, Bagenalstown.”

## **2.3 Planning & Development Act 2000 - Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 - Section 183 (1) - Disposal of land contained in Folio CW32830F (0.31 hectares) at Cappawater, Myshall, Co. Carlow**

**Proposed by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue,  
Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with the Planning & Development Act 2000 - Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 - Section 183 (1) - Disposal of land contained in Folio CW32830F (0.31 hectares) at Cappawater, Myshall, Co. Carlow.”

## **2.4 Loan for CCEC for Solar Project**

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran**

**Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve a loan of €74,850 to Carlow Community Enterprise Centres CLG in respect of an Energy Upgrade at Enterprise House, repayable over a seven-year term at zero interest.”

## **2.5 Planning and Development Act 2000 Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) Disposal of freehold on land at Grave Lane, Shaw Park, Athy Road, Carlow. (0.239 Acres / 0.096 Hectares)**

**Proposed by Cllr. F Phelan**

**Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) Disposal of freehold on land at Grave Lane, Shaw Park, Athy Road, Carlow. (0.239 Acres / 0.096 Hectares) to Patrick and Patricia O’Keeffe for €50,000 and all associated costs. The consent of the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary in this disposal.”

## **2.6 Planning & Development Act 2000 - Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 - Section 183 (1) Disposal of freehold on land at 5 & 6 Staplestown Road, Carlow.**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne**

**Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with the Planning & Development Act 2000 - Section 211, Local

Government Act 2001 - Section 183 (1) Disposal of freehold on land at 5 & 6 Staplestown Road, Carlow. To (Shamrock) Burren Homes Limited, Milltown, Garryhill, Co. Carlow for €50,000. (Shamrock) Burren Homes Limited, Milltown, Garryhill, Co. Carlow will be responsible for their own legal costs. The consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary in this disposal.”

**2.7 Taking-in-charge of roads and services at Carrigbrook, Tullow Road, Co. Carlow. Phase 1, Units 5 – 87**

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace**

**Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993; Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended; and Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act, 2010 - Taking-in-charge of roads and services at Carrigbrook, Tullow Road, Co. Carlow. Phase 1, Units 5 – 87.”

**2.8 Local Property Tax - Setting of a Local Adjustment factor 2026 in accordance with the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012 (as amended)**

A lengthy discussion took place on the proposal of increasing Local Property Tax upwards by 15% which will generate €669,837 in 2026.

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan**

**Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne**

And agreed following a roll call;

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby resolve to vary the Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) upwards by 15% for the year 2026 in respect of relevant residential properties situated in the administrative area of Carlow County Council and that the variation in the Local Property Tax rate applies for a 4-year period of 2026 – 2029 inclusive”

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
--	------------	----------------	----------------	---------------

Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin		√		
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane		√		
Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney		√		
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace		√		
Ben Ward	√			

The result was 14 For and 4 Against. The Local Property Tax - Setting of a Local Adjustment factor 2026 - 2029 was passed.

## 2.9 Extension of Section 85 Agreement with Kilkenny County Council, Paulstown Dog Shelter.

It was agreed to invite the Dog Warden Services to attend the MD meetings in the coming months.

**Proposed by Cllr. F Phelan**

**Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the Extension of its Agreement under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001, with Kilkenny County Council, Paulstown Dog Shelter for one year until 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2026 to administer the Control of Dogs function”.

## 2.10 To note the resignation of Cllr. Andy Gladney as Chairperson and Member of the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports,

**Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.**

The resignation of Cllr. A. Gladney was noted.

**2.11 Appointment of new Elected Member to the Community Development, Recreation Amenity Sports, Arts & Culture Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.**

Cllr. William Quinn was appointed onto the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.

**Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton**  
**Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the appointment of Cllr. William Quinn onto the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee”.

**2.12 Appointment of Chairperson to the Community Development, Recreation Amenity Sports, Arts & Culture Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.**

Cllr. William Quinn was appointed Chairperson to the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.

**Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton**  
**Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the appointment of Cllr. William Quinn as Chairperson to the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee”.

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
--	------------	----------------	----------------	---------------

Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane	√			
Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			
Ben Ward				√

The result was 17 For and 1 Absent. Cllr. William Quinn was appointed Chairperson to the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Strategic Policy Committee”.

### 3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus Mholtaí

#### 3.1 Training & Conference Approvals

Training and Conferences as circulated were noted.

1. AILG	The Hillgrove Hotel, Co. Monaghan	“Planning 2025 – The Councillor and the New Context for Development Plans.”	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2025	€90
---------	-----------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------	-----

### 4.0 Chief Executives Report

Questions raised by the members included queries on water safety and adequate ring buoy in the county, designated bathing areas near Carlow Town. emergency accommodation, safe houses, Tenant in Situ Scheme, increase in student fees and the possibility of writing to the Minister for Further and Higher Education and the Taoiseach to dispute this increase, Private Housing Grant Applications, pyrite, handing out of keys for Ballyknockan Manor, disability

access and wheelchair users on footpaths, disability parking spaces, modular 1 & 2 bedroom houses, Disability Access Officer

Questions raised by members were answered by C. O'Reilly and Management Team.

**5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras**

Members noted resolution adopted by Limerick City and County Council to call on the Government to ban mobile phones with access to the internet and social media among youths under 16 years of age.  
Members noted resolution of Galway County Council – Review of Affordable Housing Policy.  
Members noted the adoption of the resolution of Donegal County Council – dismay at the stated intention and policy of the Government of the Dismantling of the Triple Lock.

**6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin**

**6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. John Cassin.**

“That this Council writes to Greencore Group plc, requesting that they consider gifting the site of the former Carlow Sugar Factory back to the people of Carlow, in recognition of the historic, social and economic significance the factory has had in the development of the town and the wider region.”

**Proposed by Cllr. J. Cassin**  
**Seconded by Cllr. A. Wallace**

The members were informed that a meeting has been scheduled to meet with Greencore and that it would be advisable to defer this motion until after the meeting date.

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan**  
**Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue**

And following a roll call it was agreed,

“That we the members of Carlow County Council agree to defer the motion until after the meeting occurs with Greencore.”

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Fergal Browne	√			

John Cassin		√		
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane		√		
Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney		√		
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace		√		
Ben Ward				√

The result was 13 For and 4 Against 1 Absent. Defer motion to write to Greencore Group plc until after the Executive meet with Greencore Group plc was agreed.

### Any Other Business

- Cllr. Paul Doogue advised that the Community Games National Finals for 2025 is taking place over two days Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup> in Carlow. The main events will be held at the SETU arena in Carlow.
- The Cathaoirleach made a presentation to Cllr. Pender to mark his 40<sup>th</sup> year as an Elected Member. Fiona Byrne read out a letter received from An Taoiseach Micheál Martin to Cllr. John Pender recognising his commitment as a Public Representative and Elected Member for 40 years. The Members and Carlow County Council Executive congratulated Cllr. Pender on his achievement and his dedication to County Carlow and his constituents. Cllr. Pender thanked his family and his former and current colleague for their support over the past 40 years.





Ref: MB

22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025

**To: The Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Carlow County Council**

**Local Community Safety Partnerships**

**Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 (Section 114) (Safety Partnership) Regulations 2025**

The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 (Section 114) (Safety Partnership) Regulations 2025 established Community Safety Partnerships in the administrative area of each local Authority effective from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

The Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) will consist of 30 members including 7 elected members. It will be responsible for bringing all the relevant state services and the community together at local authority level and will play a pivotal role in addressing some of the challenges facing communities across the county. The LCSP will serve as a collaborative platform bringing together relevant state services, community representatives and stakeholders to identify and priorities local safety concerns, develop a 3-year local community safety plan and co-ordinate multi- agency efforts to address them.

The functions of the LCSP are outlined in section 116 of the Act and are as follows;

- Act as a forum for discussion
- Develop local community safety plans every three years
- Carry out a Public Consultation process for Local Community Safety Plans
- Implement local community safety plans
- Monitor and review plan implementation
- Collaborate with stakeholders
- Provide views on local policing plans
- Host public meetings concerning matters relating to community safety in its administrative area

- Coordinate and support area -based local neighbourhood community safety in the LCSP functional area where appropriate
- Report on an annual basis to the National Office for Community Safety

The objectives and intended outcomes of the Local Community Safety Partnership will be to:

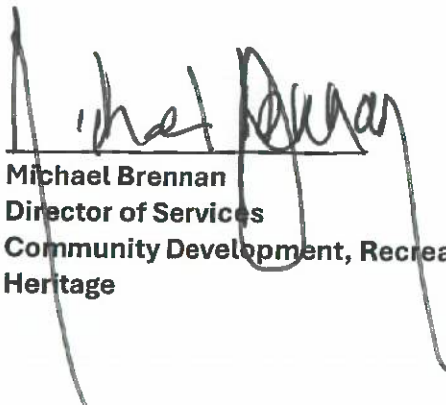
- Prioritise issues identified by the community as safety concerns;
- Ensure community engagement and representation on LCSPs;
- Develop Local Community Safety Plan which will reflect priorities identified by the community
- Improve multi-agency collaboration in the LCSP area;
- Increase community confidence in service providers; and
- Service providers will be accountable to the community fulfilling the agreed actions identified in the Local Community Safety Plan

Local Authority members have a crucial role to play in Local Community Safety Partnerships, not only representing the needs and concerns of constituents but also in communicating the issues, priorities and interventions of the safety plan to the broader Council and the public.

Nominations to the partnership should reflect the elected representational spread on the full council and be representative of each municipal district. Therefore, I recommend the following subject to Council approval

- Municipal District of Carlow- 3 No. Nominees
- Municipal District of Tullow- 2 No. Nominees
- Municipal District of Muinebheag- 2 No. Nominees

All members of the Local Community Safety Partnership Committee are appointed by the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration



**Michael Brennan**  
**Director of Services**  
**Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts, Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage**



COMHAIRLE CONTAE  
CHEATHARLACH

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Oifigí an Chontae,  
Bóthar Átha Í,  
Ceatharlach, R93E7R7

County Buildings,  
Athy Road,  
Carlow, R93E7R7

14

**To the Cathaoirleach and each Member of Carlow County Council**

**Re: Local Government Act 2001 – Section 183(1)  
Planning & Development Act 2000 – Section 211**

T: 059 9170300

E: See [carlow.ie/contact-us](http://carlow.ie/contact-us)

W: [carlow.ie](http://carlow.ie)

In compliance with the provisions of the above-named Acts, I am to give you notice that Carlow County Council intend to dispose of site and premises as described hereunder: -

**The Land:** - site and premises situate at and known as 38 Kennedy Street, Carlow, R93Y060 a plot of ground being part of the Townland of CARLOW, registered under Folio CW33031F.

**To be Disposed of to:** Sinco Restaurants Limited, Four Lakes Retail Park, Dublin Road, Carlow

**Current Owner:** Carlow County Council

**Consideration:** €165,000

**Special Conditions in connection with the disposal:**

- End use must include a residential element, subject to proper planning and sustainable development.
- Under no circumstances are purchasers allowed to sell on or speculate on the property acquired without having returned the property to productive use.
- Where planning permission is required – 6 months to submit planning application – on granting of planning permission 3 months to commence works – then 18 months to have works completed.
- Where planning permission is not required – 3 months to commence works – then 18 months to have works completed.

Carlow County Council by compulsory purchase order, acquired the site and premises under the URDF Call 3 Programme.

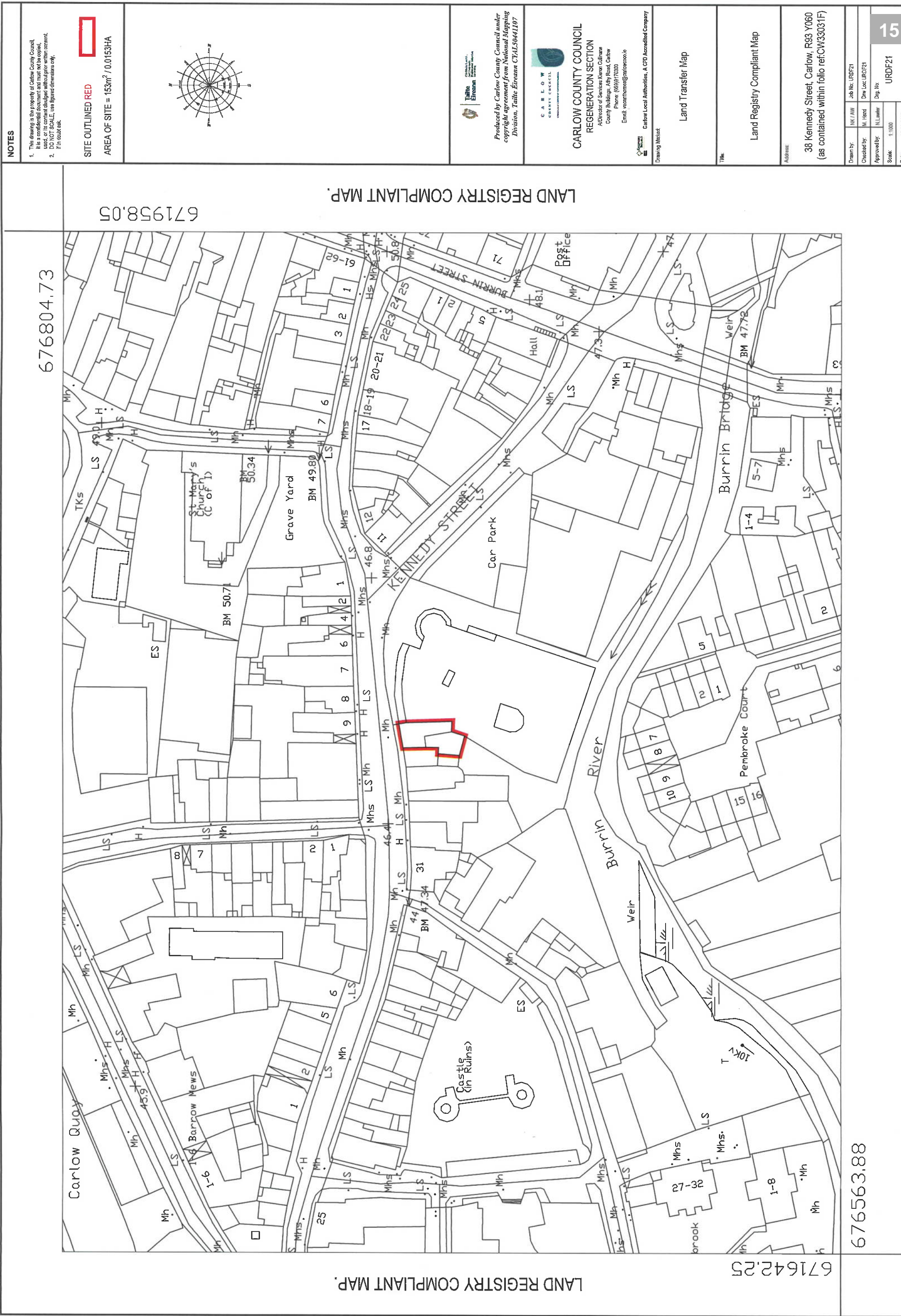
The site and premises were valued by Thomas Byrne Auctioneer and placed on the open market on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025, for the sum of €140,000. The sale was agreed on this site and premises on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025, after receiving bids from several interested parties, with the final bid in the value of €165,000. Carlow MD members were advised that this matter would be brought to the Council Plenary.

I am further to clarify to you that at a meeting of Carlow County Council to be held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025, the matter of disposal of said site and premises will be submitted for consideration and for the purposes of having a resolution passed to the effect that the disposal of site and premises be carried out with the terms specified. The disposal is in accordance with Section 183(1) of the Local Government Act 2001 and the consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary.

  
**Fiona Byrne**  
Senior Executive Officer  
Corporate Services

**Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> August 2025.**



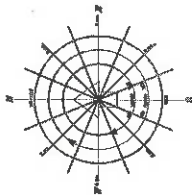


NOTES

1. This drawing is the property of Carlow County Council. It is a confidential document and must not be copied, used, or its content divulged without prior written consent.
2. DO NOT SCALE. Use figured dimensions only. If in doubt ask.

SITE OUTLINED RED

AREA OF SITE = 153m<sup>2</sup> / 0.0153HA



Produced by Carlow County Council under  
copyright agreement from National Mapping  
Division, Tailte Éireann CYL5944107



CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGENERATION SECTION

ADirector of Services, Kieran Cullane  
County Buildings, Alley Road, Carlow  
Phone: (059) 770305  
Email: [vearhomed@carlowcc.ie](mailto:vearhomed@carlowcc.ie)

Carlow Local Authorities, A CPO Accredited Company

Drawing Artist:

Land Transfer Map

Title:

Land Registry Compliant Map

Address:

38 Kennedy Street, Carlow, R93 Y060  
(as contained within folio ref.CW33031F)

Drawn by: NK / AW

Checked by: M. Hand

Approved by: N. Lawler

Scale: 1:1000

URDF21

15



2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

**To: The Cathaoirleach and Members of Carlow County Council.**

**Re: Overdraft Accommodation Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026**

Dear Member,

An overdraft accommodation in the sum of €7 million was approved by the elected members of Carlow County Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. Subsequently this overdraft limit was sanctioned by the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage.

In view of forecasted cashflow demands associated with capital expenditure and the timing of recoupments from central government it is considered prudent to retain the current overdraft limit of €7 million to ensure capital commitments and projects are processed in a timely manner.

- (a) Approval is requested for an overdraft accommodation in the sum of €7 million for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026.
- (b) Approval to the terms and conditions applicable to the overdraft facility in the amount of €7 million (together the “Facility”) made available by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c (the “**Bank**”) to the Council under the Offer Letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025 is also requested and that each of Coilin O’Reilly being the Chief Executive of the Council and PJ Leonard being the Director of Finance of the Council, are hereby authorised to sign the Offer Letter jointly on behalf of the Council and such other authorities, documents and instructions that the bank may require to be signed by the Council in connection with the facilities.

*Offer letter date 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025 is attached for information.*

*PJ Leonard*

---

PJ Leonard  
Director of Finance



**AIB Corporate Banking**  
10 Molesworth Street  
Dublin 2,  
Ireland  
(01) 7726552  
[www.aibgroup.com](http://www.aibgroup.com)

**Strictly Private & Confidential**

Chief Executive,  
Carlow County Council,  
County Buildings,  
Athy Road,  
Carlow,  
Co Carlow.

8<sup>th</sup> August 2025

**WARNING: If you do not meet the repayments on your credit agreement, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating, which may limit your ability to access credit in the future.**

Dear Members,

We are pleased to inform you that the Board of Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. (the “Bank”) has sanctioned the renewal of facilities to Carlow County Council (the “Borrower”), subject to the following terms and conditions (each a “Facility” and collectively the “Facilities”).

This Offer Letter and the Facility are in substitution for the Bank’s offer letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and the facility provided pursuant thereto (the “Previous Offer Letter”). With effect from the date of acceptance by the Borrower of this Offer Letter, the Previous Offer Letter shall be replaced.

**Section 1**

**The Facility**

**Facility 1**

- Method: Overdraft.
- Amount: €7,000,000.00 (Seven million euro).
- Purpose: To finance working capital.

The Borrower shall not use any of the Facility for any purpose except that permitted hereunder. However, failure by the Borrower to comply with this Clause shall not prejudice any rights of the Bank, which shall not be responsible for monitoring or ensuring the use or application by the Borrower of the Facility.

- Repayment: On demand and without prejudice to the right of the Bank to demand repayment thereof at any time, subject to review by 19th July 2026 or at any time at the Bank’s discretion.
- Interest: Interest shall be payable on all sums drawn under Facility 1 at the Bank's Prime overdraft rate, as the same may vary from time to time, plus a margin of 1.75%. The Prime overdraft rate as of the date of this Offer Letter is 2.375% per annum.



## Section 2 Miscellaneous

**Security:** The obligations and liabilities of the Borrower to the Bank in respect of the Facility shall be secured in a manner satisfactory to the Bank by means of Ministerial Letters of Sanction as follows:-

1. Facility 1: Ministerial Letter of Sanction for the overdraft facility of €7,000,000 (seven million euro) covering the period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. The Borrower shall provide the Bank with a Ministerial Letter of Sanction to cover the period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026.

For the avoidance of doubt, the security as described above shall also secure such cash management limits as may be afforded by the Bank to the Borrower from time to time for the amount stipulated by the Bank in the form of a limits letter. These limits may be withdrawn at any time by the Bank at its sole discretion.

**Negative Covenants:** By its acceptance of the Facility, the Borrower hereby covenants with the Bank that as long as any sums shall be owing to the Bank under the Facility, it shall not without the prior consent in writing of the Bank:-

- (a) Create or agree to create or permit any mortgage, charge, or other encumbrance of any nature over any of its assets;
- (b) Alter its constitution in a manner prejudicial to the Bank; and
- (c) Change or permit a material change in the nature of the business carried out by it at the date of this Offer Letter.

**Positive Covenants:** By its acceptance of the Facility, the Borrower hereby covenants with the Bank that for so long as the Borrower shall have any obligations to the Bank on foot of all or any of the Facility, it shall (i) keep all its property and assets insured against all risks as are normally covered in accordance with sound commercial practice and (ii) pay promptly all debts which are to be paid in priority to all other debts in a winding up and upon the appointment of a receiver on foot of, or upon the taking possession of property comprised in, a debenture secured by a floating charge.

**Representations & Warranties:**

The Borrower represents and warrants to the Bank that: -

- (i) It has full power; authority and legal right to utilise perform and comply with the terms and provisions of the Facility;
- (ii) The execution and performance of the Facility shall not contravene any agreement indenture or other instrument which is binding upon the Borrower;
- (iii) It is not in default of any of the terms and conditions of this or any other agreement;
- (iv) No material litigation is pending or threatened in relation to its business or likely to have an adverse effect on its business; and

- (v) Full disclosure has been made to the Bank of all facts in relation to the Borrower and its business and affairs as are material and ought properly be made known to any person proposing to provide financial facilities to the Borrower.

These representations and warranties shall be deemed to be repeated on each day while the Borrower shall have or shall undertake obligations to the Bank on foot of the Facility.

#### Events of Default:

Facility 1 is repayable on demand. The Bank reserves the right to terminate its commitment and to call for immediate repayment in full of all monies outstanding, including interest and other charges, should any of the following events occur:-

- (a) if the Borrower defaults in any payment of principal interest or any other sums payable hereunder when due; or
- (b) if the Borrower defaults in the performance of any other obligation, covenant, term or condition herein contained or contained in any other agreement entered into by the borrower, any guarantor or any other party in connection with this Offer Letter (other than the payment of principal, interest or any sums when due referred to (a) above) and such default continues unremedied for seven days from the date thereof (unless the default is of a type which is not capable of being remedied in which case the Bank's right to terminate its commitment and demand immediate repayment, as set out above, shall arise immediately upon default); or
- (c) if an order is made, proceedings are commenced, or an effective resolution is passed for the winding up of the Borrower, or a meeting is convened for the purpose of consideration of such a resolution, other than for the purpose of reconstruction or amalgamation while solvent on terms which have been previously approved by the Bank in writing; or
- (d) if any loan, debt, guarantee or other obligation constituting indebtedness of the Borrower (whether to the Bank or to any other entity) becomes due prior to its specified maturity or is not paid when due or the Borrower is in breach of or in default under any agreement, deed or mortgage under or pursuant to which such indebtedness was incurred (whether or not steps are taken to enforce same); or
- (e) if the Borrower convenes a meeting of, or proposes or enters into any arrangement or composition for the benefit of, its creditors; or
- (f) if any representation or warranty made or reaffirmed pursuant to the Facility proves at any time to be incorrect or inaccurate; or
- (g) if the Borrower defaults in payment of any taxes due and payable (other than those being contested in good faith); or
- (h) if in the opinion of the Bank any change shall take place in any applicable law or regulation or in the interpretation thereof which shall make it unlawful for the Bank to maintain or give effect to its obligations hereunder.

#### General Terms and Conditions:

Facility 1 is further subject to the Bank's brochure on lending entitled 'General Terms and Conditions governing Business Lending' a copy of which, effective from July 2025, is enclosed.



In the event of any inconsistency between the terms and conditions contained in the General Terms and Conditions governing Business Lending and the terms and conditions of this Offer Letter, the terms and conditions of this Offer Letter shall prevail.

**Business Day:** Any obligation under the Facility for the payment of money that falls to be performed on a day that is not a business day in the interbank market where such payment is to be delivered shall instead be performed on the business day next following unless such day falls in a calendar month succeeding that in which the obligation otherwise falls to be performed in which case such obligation shall be performed on the last business day preceding that upon which it falls to be performed.

**Expenses and Fees:** All fees, charges, commission and expenses, legal and otherwise, including, without limitation, incurred by the Bank in connection with the Facility or the enforcement thereof shall be borne and paid by the Borrower. The Bank may debit any such fees, charges, commission or expenses from any one or more of the Borrower's account(s) held with the Bank.

**Waiver:** A waiver by the Bank of any of the terms or conditions contained herein shall not constitute a general waiver of such term or condition. No failure or delay by the Bank in exercising any right, power or privilege granted to it hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right power or privilege preclude the further exercise of any such right, power or privilege. The rights and remedies herein provided are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies provided by law.

**Time:** In the construction of the provisions herein relating to the payment of monies, time shall be of the essence of the contract.

**Benefit of Facility:** The benefit of the Facility is personal to the Borrower and shall not be capable of assignment by the Borrower, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the Bank.

**Assignment:** The Bank reserves the right to assign, charge, transfer (by way of novation, securitisation or otherwise) or sub-participate all or part of the Facility and any security held as collateral in respect thereof to any member of the Allied Irish Banks Group or to any third party, either within the State or elsewhere, without the prior consent of the Borrower.

The Borrower irrevocably consents and agrees that the Bank will be entitled to give any proposed assignee, chargee, transferee or sub-participant, and its and their professional advisors, such information as the Bank deems necessary relating to the Borrower, the Facility and the security. The Borrower agrees to execute, at the cost of the Bank, any documentation (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, any deed of novation) which the Bank requests it to execute in connection with any such assignment, charge, transfer, sub-participation or securitisation and in consideration of the Facility and as security therefor, the Borrower irrevocably appoints the Bank to be its attorney for the purpose of execution of any such documentation.

**Construction:** In case any one or more provisions applicable to the Facility should be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect under any law, the validity, legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

**Notices:** Any notice, demand, request or other communication in relation to the Facility may be delivered as follows: (i) by hand or by ordinary pre-paid post to the Borrower at the address of the Borrower

last known to the Bank or to the Bank at the branch or business area of the Bank at which the Facility are domiciled; or (ii) by fax to a fax number provided for that purpose by the Borrower to the Bank or by the Bank to the Borrower; or (iii) by any electronic system used by both the Borrower and the Bank from time to time and capable of delivering and receiving such communication by use of access codes provided by the Borrower to the Bank or by the Bank to the Borrower. Such communication will be deemed to have been validly given or made when delivered by hand or twenty-four hours after dispatch by post, fax or other electronic system.

#### Financial

**Information:** For so long as the Borrower shall have any obligations to the Bank on foot of the Facility the Borrower shall provide to the Bank such information as the Bank may require from time to time and, in particular, a copy of the annual audited profit and loss account and balance sheet for the Borrower.

**Counterparts:** This Offer Letter may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which is an original and which together have the same effect as if each party had signed the same document.

#### Annual

**Review:** The Borrower is entitled to an annual review meeting with the Bank in relation to the Facility and related security.

**Counterparts:** This Offer Letter may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which is an original and which together have the same effect as if each party had signed the same document.

#### Applicable

**Law:** This Offer Letter and the Facility shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland.

#### Central Credit

##### Register:

**NOTICE: Under the Credit Reporting Act 2013 lenders are required to provide personal and credit information for credit applications and credit agreements of €500 and above to the Central Credit Register. This information will be held on the Central Credit Register and may be used by other lenders when making decisions on your credit applications and credit agreements.**

The Central Credit Register is maintained and operated by the Central Bank of Ireland. For information on your rights and duties under the Credit Reporting Act 2013 please refer to the factsheet prepared by the Central Bank of Ireland. This factsheet is available on [www.centralcreditregister.ie](http://www.centralcreditregister.ie). Copies can also be obtained from your AIB relationship manager and on [www.aib.ie](http://www.aib.ie).

When a public body applies for credit to buy or develop residential property (for example for social housing), we will report that application and any lending to the Central Credit Register.

Public Bodies are government departments, state agencies, Approved Housing Bodies and/ or local authorities who will use the funding to assist with purchase of Residential properties such as social housing.


**Acceptance:** If the terms and conditions of the Facility are acceptable to you, we shall be obliged if you will so indicate by returning to us within 30 days:-

- (i) a certified copy of resolutions of the Elected Members of the Borrower authorising the acceptance of this Offer Letter (draft enclosed);
- (ii) the enclosed copy of this Offer Letter duly accepted.

We are pleased to have been afforded the opportunity of placing this Facility before you.

Yours faithfully  
For and on behalf of  
Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Kearns  
Senior Relationship Manager  
AIB Corporate Banking

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela Collins  
Relationship Manager  
AIB Corporate Banking

**TO: Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.**

Accepted this      day of      2025

In Process

For and on behalf of  
Carlow County Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
[      ]  
Chief Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
[      ]  
Head of Finance

## STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 1. DEFINITIONS:

"Bank"	means Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. or any of its subsidiaries providing the Facilities (which term shall include all or any of them).
"Business Day"	means a day on which the Bank's branches are generally open for business in Ireland.
"Borrower"	means the body corporate/company or other person/persons utilising the Facilities.
"Breakage Cost"	means the replacement cost to the Bank resulting from a Prepayment.
"CHF Margin"	has the meaning given to that term in the "Interest" clause of the Offer Letter.
"CHF Reference Rate"	means, in relation to any Interest Period of a Facility sanctioned on a SARON All-In Rate, the percentage rate per annum which is the aggregate of (a) the Compounded SARON Rate; and (b) the applicable Credit Adjustment Spread (if any).
"Compounded SARON Rate"	means, in relation to any Interest Period for a Facility sanctioned on a SARON All-In Rate, the percentage rate per annum determined by the Bank to be such rate in accordance with the methodology (as may be amended from time to time) specified in Appendix 2 to the Offer Letter or as may be otherwise notified to the Borrower in writing from time to time <b>provided that</b> any replacement methodology selected by the Bank (acting reasonably) and notified to the Borrower shall be a methodology which is: (i) formally designated, nominated or recommended by any relevant administrator or Relevant Nominating Body; or (ii) in the opinion of the Bank, generally accepted in the international or any relevant domestic loan markets as an appropriate methodology for the calculation of the Compounded SARON Rate.
"Compounded SOFR Rate"	means, in relation to any Interest Period for a Facility sanctioned on a SOFR All-In Rate, the percentage rate per annum determined by the Bank to be such rate in accordance with the methodology (as may be amended from time to time) specified in Appendix 2 to the Offer Letter or as may be otherwise notified to the Borrower in writing from time to time <b>provided that</b> any replacement methodology selected by the Bank (acting reasonably) and notified to the Borrower shall be a methodology which is: (i) formally designated, nominated or recommended by any relevant administrator or Relevant Nominating Body; or (ii) in the opinion of the Bank, generally accepted in the international or any relevant domestic loan markets as an appropriate methodology for the calculation of the Compounded SOFR Rate.
"Compounded SONIA Rate"	means, in relation to any Interest Period for a Facility sanctioned on a SONIA All-In Rate, the percentage rate per annum determined by the

Bank to be such rate in accordance with the methodology (as may be amended from time to time) specified in Appendix 2 to the Offer Letter or as may be otherwise notified to the Borrower in writing from time to time **provided that** any replacement methodology selected by the Bank (acting reasonably) and notified to the Borrower shall be a methodology which is: (i) formally designated, nominated or recommended by any relevant administrator or Relevant Nominating Body; or (ii) in the opinion of the Bank, generally accepted in the international or any relevant domestic loan markets as an appropriate methodology for the calculation of the Compounded SONIA Rate.

“Compounded RFR Rate”

means the Compounded SONIA Rate or the Compounded SOFR Rate or the Compounded SARON Rate, as applicable.

"Cost of Funds"

means, in relation to a Facility, the rate notified by the Bank to the Borrower to be the average cost to the Bank (as determined by the Bank on an actual or notional basis) of funding that Facility for the relevant Interest Period from whatever source(s) it may reasonably select.

"Credit Adjustment Spread"

means, in respect of an Interest Period, the credit adjustment spread value for the relevant Foreign Currency which is the percentage rate per annum applicable to that Interest Period as determined by the Bank at the start of that Interest Period using either:

(a) the median of the differences between:

- (i) sterling LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rate) for the relevant Interest Period tenor and SONIA compounded over the corresponding period; or
- (ii) USD LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rate) for the relevant Interest Period tenor and SOFR compounded over the corresponding period; or
- (iii) CHF LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rate) for the relevant Interest Period tenor and SARON compounded over the corresponding period,

as applicable, fixed in line with the recommendations of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association and as published as a fixed value (truncated to four decimal places in the case of SOFR) alongside the corresponding Interest Period tenor on the Bank's website at the following address: [aib.ie/fxcentre/cas](https://aib.ie/fxcentre/cas) (the "**Website**") or, in respect of any Interest Period tenor for which a corresponding credit adjustment spread value is not published on the Website, the linear interpolation of the fixed credit adjustment spread values corresponding to the next shortest and the next longest Interest Period tenors which are published on the Website; or

(b) such other index or methodology as may be notified to the Borrower in writing from time to time provided that any replacement index or methodology selected by the Bank (acting reasonably) and notified to the Borrower shall be an index or a methodology which is:

(i) formally designated, nominated or recommended by any relevant administrator or Relevant Nominating Body; or

(ii) in the opinion of the Bank, generally accepted in the international or any relevant domestic loan markets as an appropriate index or methodology for the calculation of the Credit Adjustment Spread.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Credit Adjustment Spread (as defined above) is intended to be a measure of bank credit risk and term liquidity premium.

"Environmental Laws"

means all present and future national, federal, state, local, foreign and supranational laws, rules or regulations, codes, ordinances, orders, decrees, judgements or injunctions issued, promulgated, approved or entered thereunder or other requirements of Governmental Authorities or the common law relating to health, safety, pollution or protection of the environment, including without limitation laws relating to emissions, discharges, releases or threatened releases of pollutants, contaminants, chemicals or industrial, toxic or hazardous substances or wastes into the environment, including without limitation, land, air, surface water, ground water (land surface or sub-surface strata) or otherwise relating to the manufacture, processing, distribution, use, generation, treatment, storage, disposal, transport or handling of pollutants, contaminants, chemicals or industrial, toxic or hazardous substances, or wastes or underground storage tanks or emissions therefrom.

"Euribor"

means the euro interbank offered rate administered by the European Money Markets Institute (or any other person which takes over the administration of that rate) for the relevant period displayed on page EURIBOR01 of the Thomson Reuters screen, at or about 11:00am (Brussels time) on the day that is two TARGET Days before the first day of the relevant Interest Period (the "**Euribor Determination Day**"), for euro and for a period equal in length to that Interest Period.

"Euribor Replacement Date"

has the meaning given to it in clause 9 (Replacement of Euribor).

"Euribor Replacement Rate"

has the meaning given to it in clause 9 (Replacement of Euribor).

"Euribor Replacement Trigger Event"

has the meaning given to it in clause 9 (Replacement of Euribor).

"Euro Reference Rate"

means, in relation to any Facility drawn in euro:

(a) "Euribor"; or

	(b) any replacement rate selected pursuant to clause 9 (Replacement of Euribor).
"Euro Margin"	has the meaning given to that term in the "Interest" clause of the Offer Letter.
"Facilities"	means the banking facility or facilities agreed to be provided to or renewed, replaced or restructured on behalf of the Borrower by the Bank pursuant to the Offer Letter and Facility will mean any one of them as the context will require.
"Foreign Currency"	has the meaning given to that term in the "Amount" clause of the Offer Letter.
"Governmental Authority"	means any authority having power to make or enforce Environmental Laws or to issue licenses or other authorisations of any description which shall subject the conduct of any process (whether by manufacture or otherwise) to particular or general conditions and 'Governmental Authorities' shall be construed accordingly.
"Interest Period"	means such period(s) by reference to which the Bank shall have agreed to fund a Facility.
"Margin"	means the Euro Margin and/or the Sterling Margin and/ or the USD Margin and/ or the CHF Margin, as applicable.
"Market Disruption Event"	means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the Euro Reference Rate is not available for the Interest Period of a loan in euro; or</li> <li>(ii) the Bank determines that the Bank's Cost of Funds would be in excess of the Euro Reference Rate.</li> </ul>
"Offer Letter"	means the letter agreement (as same may be amended, supplemented, restated, extended and/or renewed from time to time) issued by the Bank to the Borrower setting forth the terms and conditions of sanction in relation to the Facilities of which these Standard Terms and Conditions form part.
"Prepayment"	means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) if the Bank at its discretion agrees to allow full or partial out of course repayment or conversion of the Facility to another interest rate, or</li> <li>(ii) if the Borrower makes payment following demand for payment by the Bank.</li> </ul>
"Reference Rate"	means the Sterling Reference Rate and/ or the USD Reference Rate and/ or the CHF Reference Rate, as applicable.

"Regulatory Authority"	includes the Central Bank of Ireland, the European Central Bank, the Minister for Finance of Ireland and any other regulatory, fiscal, monetary or other authority in or of Ireland or elsewhere having jurisdiction over the Bank or any subsidiary of the Bank whether or not having the force of law.
"Relevant Nominating Body"	means any applicable central bank, regulator or other supervisory authority or a group of them, or any trade body or association or any working group or committee sponsored or chaired by, or constituted at the request of, any of them or the Financial Stability Board.
"Reserve Requirements"	means the cost to the Bank from time to time (expressed as a percentage per annum) arising in relation to funding a Facility and from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) any liquidity or minimum reserve ratio, special deposit or similar requirements (or any other requirement having the same or similar purpose) imposed by any Regulatory Authority in relation to a Facility, irrespective of whether or not such requirements have the force of law; or</li> <li>(ii) any law or regulation, including any tax (other than a change in the rate of corporation or other income tax) being assessed on the Bank.</li> </ul>
"RFR"	means risk free rate.
"RFR All In Rate"	means the SONIA All In Rate and/ or the SARON All In Rate and/ or the SOFR All In Rate.
"SARON"	means the Swiss average rate overnight.
"SARON All-In Rate"	means, in relation to any Facility, the percentage rate per annum which is the aggregate of the applicable (a) CHF Reference Rate; and (b) CHF Margin.
"SOFR"	means the secured overnight financing rate published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (or any other person which takes over the publication of that rate).
"SOFR All-In Rate"	means, in relation to any Facility, the percentage rate per annum which is the aggregate of the applicable (a) USD Reference Rate; and (b) USD Margin.
"SONIA"	means the sterling overnight index average.
"SONIA All-In Rate"	means, in relation to any Facility, the percentage rate per annum which is the aggregate of the applicable (a) Sterling Reference Rate; and (b) Sterling Margin.
"Sterling Margin"	has the meaning given to that term in the "Interest" clause of the Offer Letter.



“Sterling Reference Rate”	means, in relation to any Interest Period of a Facility sanctioned on a SONIA All-In Rate, the percentage rate per annum which is the aggregate of (a) the Compounded SONIA Rate; and (b) the applicable Credit Adjustment Spread (if any).
“TARGET Day”	means any day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross Settlement Express Transfer payment system (which utilises a single shared platform, was launched on 19 November 2007 and is commonly known as “TARGET2”) is open for the settlement of payments in euro.
“USD Margin”	has the meaning given to that term in the “Interest” clause of the Offer Letter.
“USD Reference Rate”	means, in relation to any Interest Period of a Facility sanctioned on a SOFR All-In Rate, the percentage rate per annum which is the aggregate of (a) the Compounded SOFR Rate; and (b) the applicable Credit Adjustment Spread (if any).

References to a page, screen or index of an information service displaying a rate shall include (a) any replacement page, screen or index of that information service which displays that rate and (b) the appropriate page, screen or index of such other information service which displays that rate from time to time in place of that information service; and, in each case, if such page, screen, index or service ceases to be available, shall include any other page, screen, index or service displaying that rate specified by the Bank and notified to the Borrower.

## 2. **PRECONDITIONS:**

The Bank shall not be obliged to provide the Facilities or any part thereof unless: -

- (a) The Bank is satisfied that there shall have been no material adverse change in the business, assets or future prospects of the Borrower or of its parent/guarantor(s) (if appropriate) from that at the date hereof; and
- (b) All appropriate exchange control and other consents shall have been obtained and are in full force and effect; and
- (c) The Bank is satisfied that it is in a position to advance the Facilities having regard to the credit guidelines and exchange control regulations of any Regulatory Authority; and
- (d) The security requirements have been executed in a manner satisfactory to the Bank.

These preconditions are additional to any other terms and conditions precedent to the provision of the Facilities which have been agreed between the Borrower and the Bank.

## 3. **NOTICE:**

The Borrower shall give the Bank not less than three Business Days notice in writing of its intention to avail of a Facility.

## 4. **INTEREST IN RELATION TO EURO REFERENCE RATE FACILITIES:**

In relation to the drawdown of any Facility drawn in euro:

- (a) When interest is calculated by reference to Euribor, the interest rate will be set on the date of drawdown and shall be reset on the first day of each Interest Period. When interest is calculated by reference to a Euribor Replacement Rate (in accordance with clause 9 (Replacement of Euribor) below), the interest rate shall be set at such time as the Bank deems appropriate to give effect to that Euribor Replacement Rate.
- (b) Where the Borrower has the option of selecting the duration of Interest Periods and does not notify the Bank of its option prior to 11.00 am on the day the interest rate falls to be determined, an Interest Period of 3 months shall be deemed to have been selected.
- (c) Interest shall be payable on the last day of each Interest Period and on the date of final repayment of the Facility, should such date differ from that quoted above save that where an Interest Period is for a period in excess of six months, interest shall be payable at six monthly intervals and on the last day of the Interest Period.
- (d) Interest shall accrue from day to day (both before and after judgment) on the amount of the Facility, such interest to be calculated in arrears up to the last day of each Interest Period on the basis of a 360 day year (or, in any case where the practice in the relevant market differs, in accordance with that market practice).

## 5. **INTEREST IN RELATION TO COMPOUNDED RFR RATE FACILITIES:**

In relation to the drawdown of any Facility in a currency to which a Compounded RFR Rate applies:

- (a) Interest shall accrue and be calculated on a day-to-day basis, with the first Interest Period commencing on the date of drawdown, and unless otherwise agreed between the Borrower and the Bank, each Interest Period shall be three months. Interest shall be charged at the end of each Interest Period and up to the date of final repayment of the Facility, at the applicable RFR All-In Rate.
- (b) Where the Borrower has the option of selecting the duration of Interest Periods and does not notify the Bank of its option prior to 11.00 am on the day the Interest Period falls to be determined, an Interest Period of 3 months shall be deemed to have been selected.
- (c) Interest shall accrue from day to day (both before and after judgment) on the amount of the Facility, such interest to be calculated in arrears up to the last day of each Interest Period on the basis of a 360/365 day year as appropriate (or, in any case where the practice in the relevant market differs, in accordance with that market practice).
- (d) If (and for so long as) the Bank determines that adequate and fair means do not exist to ascertain the Reference Rate then the rate of interest applicable to the Facility shall be as set out in clause 7.1 and/or clause 7.2 below.
- (e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Bank is able to ascertain the Reference Rate but the Cost of Funds would be in excess of the Reference Rate then the rate of interest on that Facility for that Interest Period shall be the percentage rate per annum which is the sum of: (a) the Margin; and (b) the Cost of Funds.

## 6. **PREPAYMENT:**

- 6.1 Except where payment is being made immediately following demand by the Bank, the Borrower must serve at least three Business Days prior notice to the Bank of any proposed Prepayment of a Facility.

- 6.2 In relation to any Facility drawn in euro only, Prepayment will be subject to the payment by the Borrower of a Breakage Cost, to be calculated:
- (a) where the period for which interest is fixed is less than one year or where the interest period is fixed for one year with no scheduled repayments during such one year period, using the following formula:  
Breakage Cost =  $A \times U \times D\%$ , where:
- "A" is the amount of the Prepayment; and
- "U" is the unexpired term of the fixed interest rate period, and
- "D" is the difference between the Cost of Funds applying to the Facility when the rate was fixed and the Cost of Funds applying at the time of Prepayment, for the amount of "A" for the term of "U".
- (b) where the period for which interest is fixed is more than one year or where the interest period is for one year with scheduled repayments during such one year period, Breakage Cost will be calculated taking into account the following:
- (i) the difference between the Cost of Funds applying to the Facility when the rate was fixed, and the Cost of Funds at the time of the Prepayment in the amount of the Prepayment, and
- (ii) associated cashflows for the remainder of the fixed rate term and applying a discount factor in accordance with standard net present value methodology.
- 6.3 Any Prepayment is treated as a permanent reduction and cannot be redrawn. Any such amount will shorten the repayment period but the Borrower must continue to make the repayments specified in the Offer Letter unless otherwise agreed.

## 7. UNAVAILABILITY OF REFERENCE RATE:

- 7.1 If there is no applicable Reference Rate during an Interest Period for a Facility sanctioned on an RFR All-In Rate, then (at the selection of the Bank, in its absolute discretion) either:
- (a) clause 7.2 below; or
- (b) any other rate as specified to the Borrower by the Bank (acting reasonably) from time to time on not less than 30 days' notice,
- shall apply to that Facility for such period (the "**Relevant Period**") as the Bank (acting reasonably) selects, **provided that** any alternative rate specified by the Bank in accordance with paragraph (b) of this clause 7.1 shall be a rate which is: (i) formally designated, nominated or recommended by any relevant administrator or Relevant Nominating Body; or (ii) in the opinion of the Bank, generally accepted in the international or any relevant domestic loan markets, as an appropriate replacement for the Reference Rate (or any constituent part thereof).
- 7.2 If this clause 7.2 applies to a Facility, the RFR All-In Rate specified in the Offer Letter shall cease to apply for the Relevant Period and the rate of interest on that Facility for the Relevant Period shall be the percentage rate per annum which is the sum of: (a) the applicable Margin; and (b) the Cost of Funds.

## 8. MARKET DISRUPTION – EURO REFERENCE RATE LOANS:

- (a) If a Market Disruption Event occurs in relation to a Facility denominated in euro for any Interest Period, then the rate of interest on the Facility for the Interest Period shall be the percentage rate per annum which is the sum of:
  - (i) the Euro Margin;
  - (ii) the Cost of Funds; and
  - (iii) the Reserve Requirements, if any applicable to the appropriate Interest Period.
- (b) If a Market Disruption Event occurs and the Bank or the Borrower so requires, the Bank and the Borrower shall enter into negotiations (for a period of not more than thirty days) with a view to agreeing a substitute basis for determining the rate of interest.
- (c) During the negotiation period (referred to in paragraph (b) above), and in the event that a substitute basis for determining the rate of interest is not agreed, interest shall continue to be calculated on the basis set out in paragraph (a) above for so long as a Market Disruption Event continues.

## 9. REPLACEMENT OF EURIBOR:

- (a) This clause 9 (Replacement of Euribor) applies to any Facility provided by reference to Euribor.
- (b) At any time on or after the occurrence of a Euribor Replacement Trigger Event, the Bank may elect (at its discretion) to substitute a replacement rate for Euribor (such rate, the “**Euribor Replacement Rate**”) in accordance with the provisions of this clause 9. The Euribor Replacement Rate may comprise one or more parts, including (without limitation) a credit adjustment spread.
- (c) The Euribor Replacement Rate will take effect, subject to the other provisions of this clause 9, in place of Euribor:
  - (i) on such date as the Bank specifies; or
  - (ii) failing such specification by the Bank, on the earliest to occur of the following dates:
    1. the date on which Euribor ceases to be representative of the underlying market and the economic reality that it is intended to measure (as determined by the supervisor of the administrator of Euribor); and
    2. the date on which the Bank becomes aware that its use of Euribor is illegal,

(the “**Euribor Replacement Date**”).

In the case of any Euribor Replacement Date specified by the Bank in accordance with subparagraph (i) above, the Bank will provide the Borrower with not less than 30 days' notice of the Euribor Replacement Date and particulars of the Euribor Replacement Rate.

- (d) From the Euribor Replacement Date:
  - (i) this Agreement, shall be construed so as to give effect to the Euribor Replacement Rate (including, without limitation, with regard to the calculation of interest pursuant to the “Interest” clause in the Offer Letter); and

- (ii) the Borrower shall (and shall use reasonable endeavours to procure that any person that has provided a guarantee or security in relation to this Agreement shall):
    - a. take all such steps as may be reasonably required by the Bank to ensure that the Euribor Replacement Rate functions in the manner required by the Bank; and
    - b. if requested by the Bank, promptly amend this Agreement in any way that is reasonably required to reflect the implementation of the Euribor Replacement Rate.
- (e) Subject to paragraph (f) below, if the Euribor Replacement Date falls on or after the Euribor Determination Day and before the last day of an Interest Period for a drawing under the Facility:
  - a. for the remainder of that Interest Period, interest on that Facility shall continue to be calculated using Euribor; and
  - b. on and from the first day of the next Interest Period (if any), interest on that Facility shall be calculated using the Euribor Replacement Rate.
- (f) If the Euribor Replacement Date falls before the last day of an Interest Period for a drawing under the Facility, the Bank may determine that such Interest Period will instead end on the Euribor Replacement Date.
- (g) The Bank may review the application of any Euribor Replacement Rate and require further changes in relation to the Euribor Replacement Rate (including, without limitation, in relation to its calculation methodology and application).
- (h) In the exercise of any discretion afforded to the Bank regarding the matters provided for in this clause 9, the Bank shall act reasonably and shall have regard to (but shall not be obliged to implement):
  - i. any rates formally designated, nominated or recommended by any relevant administrator or Relevant Nominating Body in relation to the replacement of Euribor; and
  - ii. what is, in the opinion of the Bank, generally accepted in the international or any relevant domestic loan markets as an appropriate methodology for the calculation of a replacement of Euribor.
- (i) **“Euribor Replacement Trigger Event”** means, in relation to Euribor:
  - 1.
    - a. the administrator of Euribor or its supervisor publicly announces that such administrator is insolvent; or
    - b. information is published in any order, decree, notice, petition or filing, however described, of or filed with a court, tribunal, exchange, regulatory authority or similar administrative regulatory or judicial body which reasonably confirms that the administrator of Euribor is insolvent,

provided that, in each case, at that time, there is no successor administrator to continue to provide Euribor;

2. the administrator of Euribor publicly announces that it has ceased or will cease, to provide Euribor permanently or indefinitely and, at that time, there is no successor administrator to continue to provide Euribor;
3. the supervisor of the administrator of Euribor publicly announces that Euribor has been or will be permanently or indefinitely discontinued;
4. the administrator of Euribor or its supervisor announces that Euribor may no longer be used;
5. the supervisor of the administrator of Euribor publicly announces or publishes information stating that Euribor is no longer, or as of a specified future date will no longer be, representative of the underlying market and the economic reality that it is intended to measure and that such representativeness will not be restored (as determined by such supervisor); or
6. the use by the Bank of Euribor for the purposes contemplated by this Agreement becomes illegal.

#### 10. **INTEREST ON OVERDUE PAYMENTS:**

In the event of interest or repayments not being paid on the due date, interest on the amounts overdue shall be charged at the rate set out in the Offer Letter. Such interest shall be payable on demand to the Bank. Interest (if unpaid) arising on an overdue amount will be compounded with the overdue amount at the end of each Interest Period applicable to that overdue amount but will remain immediately due and payable.

**IMPORTANT - INTEREST ON OVERDUE AMOUNTS WILL NOT BE PAYABLE IF SCHEDULED PAYMENTS ARE MADE ON TIME.**

#### 11. **VALUATION:**

The Borrower covenants, agrees with and undertakes to the Bank that, for as long as any facility is available for utilisation or any amount is outstanding to the Bank in respect of any facility the Borrower will facilitate an independent valuation(s) of any asset (including without limitation any land and/or buildings) and/or the Borrower's business if requested to do so by the Bank **at any time**. Any such valuation(s) will be at the Borrower's own expense and (unless agreed otherwise with the Bank) will be furnished by a valuer chosen from the Bank's approved panel of valuers and addressed to the Bank. The Bank will be entitled to debit any fees or expenses relating to such valuation(s) to the Borrower's working account or any other account which the Bank deems appropriate.

#### 12. **GUARANTORS:**

The Borrower acknowledges that the Bank will, if required by its regulatory obligations, provide any guarantor(s) of the Facilities with a copy of the relevant Agreement, will notify them of any change(s) to the terms and conditions applying to such Facilities and will provide the guarantor(s) with a copy of the documentation effecting such change(s).

#### 13. **INCREASED COSTS:**

If the cost to the Bank of making or maintaining any Facility increases as a result of the introduction of, or any change in, any Reserve Requirements then, save to the extent the Bank has already been compensated for such cost, the Bank may increase the interest rate applicable to the Facility by an amount

which the Bank determines (in its absolute discretion) is sufficient to compensate the Bank for such increased cost.

**14. GROSSING UP:**

All sums payable by the Borrower under any Facility, whether of principal, interest or otherwise shall be paid in the currency in which they are outstanding in full without any deduction, set off, counterclaim or withholding whatsoever. In the event of the Borrower being required by law to make any deduction or withholding from any payment to the Bank then the Borrower shall ensure that such deduction or withholding will not exceed the minimum legal liability therefor and shall forthwith pay to the Bank such additional amounts as will result in the receipt by the Bank of a net amount equal to the amount it would have received had no such deduction or withholding been required to be made.

**15. REPRESENTATIONS & WARRANTIES:**

The Borrower represents and warrants to the Bank that:-

- (i) It has full power, authority and legal right to utilise perform and comply with the terms and provisions of the Facilities;
- (ii) The execution and performance of the Facilities shall not contravene any agreement indenture or other instrument which is binding upon the Borrower;
- (iii) It is not in default of any of the terms and conditions of this or any other agreement;
- (iv) No material litigation is pending or threatened in relation to its business or likely to have an adverse effect on its business;
- (v) None of the properties over which security has been given to support the Facility, as detailed under the heading "Security" in the Offer Letter, constitutes my principal or primary residence, or the principal or primary residence of any of my dependents;
- (vi) The tax affairs of the Borrower are up to date and in order; and
- (vii) Full disclosure has been made to the Bank of all facts in relation to the Borrower and its business and affairs as are material and ought properly be made known to any person proposing to provide financial facilities to the Borrower.

These representations and warranties shall be deemed to be repeated at the beginning of each Interest Period.

**16. NEGATIVE COVENANTS:**

By acceptance of the Offer Letter the Borrower covenants with the Bank that it shall not during the currency of the Facilities without the prior consent in writing of the Bank:

- (i) Create or agree to create or permit any mortgage, charge, or other encumbrance of any nature over any of its assets,
- (ii) In the case of a body corporate, alter its Constitution in a manner prejudicial to the Bank.

**17. POSITIVE COVENANTS:**

The Borrower shall (i) keep all its property and assets insured against all risks as are normally covered in accordance with sound commercial practice and (ii) pay promptly all debts, which are to be paid in priority to all other debts in a winding up and upon the appointment of a receiver on foot of, or upon the taking possession of property comprised in, a debenture secured by a floating charge or in a bankruptcy or other insolvency proceeding, as the case may be.

**18. NON-BUSINESS DAYS**

Any payment which would be due and payable on a non-Business Day, or on the 29th, 30th, or 31st day of a calendar month which does not include that date, will be deemed due and payable on the immediately preceding or immediately following Business Day, as the Bank in its discretion may determine.

**19. ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS:**

The Borrower shall ensure that at all times it will comply with Environmental Laws and/or with any license(s) or other authorisation(s) issued in connection therewith by any Governmental Authority and the Borrower hereby indemnifies the Bank and agrees to keep the Bank indemnified against any and all actions, costs, demands, claims, losses or otherwise which the Bank may suffer or be put to by reason of breach or non-observance by the Borrower of Environmental Laws or of the terms of any license or other authorisation issued to the Borrower by any Governmental Authority.

**20. CERTIFICATION:**

A certificate of the Bank as to any amount payable under a Facility shall be final and binding on the Borrower save in the case of manifest error.

In Process

**21. WAIVER:**

The Borrower and each guarantor agrees and acknowledges that each of the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement are for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Bank. The Bank shall be entitled to waive any or all of these terms and conditions without the consent of the Borrower, the guarantor(s) or any other obligor being a party to the Agreement.

Furthermore, a waiver by the Bank of any of the terms or conditions shall not constitute a general waiver of such term or condition. No failure or delay by the Bank in exercising any right, power or privilege granted to it under the Agreement shall operate as a waiver thereof nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right power or privilege preclude the further exercise of any such right, power or privilege. The rights and remedies herein provided are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies provided by law.

**22. TIME:**

In the construction of the provisions herein relating to the payment of monies, time shall be of the essence of the contract.

**23. BENEFIT OF FACILITIES:**

The benefit of the Facilities is personal to the Borrower and shall not be capable of assignment by the Borrower, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the Bank.

**24. ASSIGNMENT:**



The Bank reserves the right to assign, charge, transfer (by way of novation, securitisation or otherwise) or sub-participate all or part of the Facilities and any security held as collateral in respect thereof to any member of the Allied Irish Banks Group or to any third party, either within the State or elsewhere, without notice to or the prior consent of the Borrower.

The Bank will be entitled to give any proposed assignee, chargee, transferee or sub-participant, and its and their professional advisors, such information, documentation and personal data as the Bank deems necessary relating to the Borrower, the Facilities and the security (which may include the disclosure of personal data in relation to the Borrower outside the European Economic Area where the level of data protection is not as high as in Ireland).

The Borrower agrees to execute, at the cost of the Bank, any documentation (including without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, any deed of novation) which the Bank requests it to execute in connection with any such assignment, charge, transfer, sub-participation or securitisation and in consideration of the Facilities and as security therefor, the Borrower irrevocably appoints the Bank to be its attorney for the purpose of the execution of any such documentation.

**25. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION:**

The Bank may disclose information (including personal data) relating to the Borrower in the following circumstances:

- (i) Where the disclosure is reasonably required in order to ensure the proper and efficient approval and performance of the Agreement by the Bank or by a third party engaged to assist the Bank in such performance (whether such a third party is an affiliate of the Bank or otherwise);
- (ii) To a third party to whom the Bank assigns, charges, transfers, sub-participates or otherwise disposes of (or may potentially do so) all or any of the rights and obligations under the Agreement;
- (iii) Where the Borrower has given its consent to the disclosure or where such consent has been given on behalf of the Borrower; or
- (iv) To the extent that the information is required to be disclosed by any applicable law or regulation.

**26. SET-OFF:**

The Bank shall be entitled to debit any of the Borrower's accounts with the Bank (or, in the event of no such account being maintained by it with the Bank, an account specifically opened for such purpose and which the Bank is hereby irrevocably authorised to open) with the amount of any and all amounts due and payable under the Agreement, including but not limited to, amounts due and payable in respect of interest and principal.

**27. CONSTRUCTION:**

- (a) If at any time any of the provisions of this Agreement is or becomes, or is declared to be invalid illegal or unenforceable in any respect under any law or for any reason whatsoever, the validity legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.
- (b) Where one or more Borrowers avail of any of the Facilities under the Agreement, their respective obligations shall take effect as joint and several obligations and all references to the Borrower shall take effect as references to the said Borrowers or any of them.

**28. SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE APPEALS.**  
**FACILITIES BETWEEN €1,000 AND €500,000**

If the Bank has sanctioned facilities for an amount that is less than the amount for which the SME borrower had applied, or if the Borrower believes that the terms and conditions of the sanction are such that they cannot be accepted, or the Borrower is not willing to enter into an alternative repayment arrangement, the Borrower may submit a written appeal, outlining the basis of the appeal within 30 days to the Credit Appeals Officer, P.O. Box 11826, AIB, 10 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

If the Borrower's appeal is unsuccessful, the Borrower may, where applicable\*, refer the Bank's decision to the Credit Review Office established by the Minister for Finance

At any time, and free of charge, you may request a copy of the credit facility agreement.

\* For more information see [www.creditreview.ie](http://www.creditreview.ie)

**29. FURTHER ASSURANCE:**

The Borrower shall promptly do all such acts or execute all such documents (including assignments, transfers, mortgages, charges, notices, instruments and any other documents) as the Bank may reasonably specify (and in such form as the Bank may require in favour of the Bank or its nominee(s)) to perfect the security stipulated in this Offer Letter (which may include the execution of a mortgage, charge, assignment, pledge, lien, encumbrance or other security interest over all or any of the assets which are, or are intended to be, the subject of this Offer Letter) or for the exercise of any rights, powers and remedies of the Bank provided by or pursuant to the Agreement or the security or arising by operation of law.

**30. NOTICES:**

Any notice, demand, request or other communication in relation to a Facility may be delivered as follows: (i) by hand or by ordinary pre-paid post to the Borrower at the address of the Borrower last known to the Bank or to the Bank at the branch or business area of the Bank at which the Facility is domiciled; or (ii) by fax to a fax number provided for that purpose by the Borrower to the Bank or by the Bank to the Borrower; or (iii) by any electronic system used by both the Borrower and the Bank from time to time and capable of delivering and receiving such communication by use of access codes provided by the Borrower to the Bank or by the Bank to the Borrower. Such communication will be deemed to have been validly given or made when delivered by hand or twenty-four hours after dispatch by post, fax or other electronic system.

**31. FEES AND CHARGES:**

All fees, charges, commission and expenses, legal and otherwise, including, without limitation, those incurred by the Bank in connection with the Facility (including the completion of the security) or the enforcement thereof (together with VAT thereon) shall be borne and paid by the Borrower. The same shall be payable whether or not the Facility is utilised in whole or in part. The Bank may debit any such fees, charges, commission or expenses from any one or more of the Borrower's account(s) held with the Bank even if this causes the said account(s) to be overdrawn.

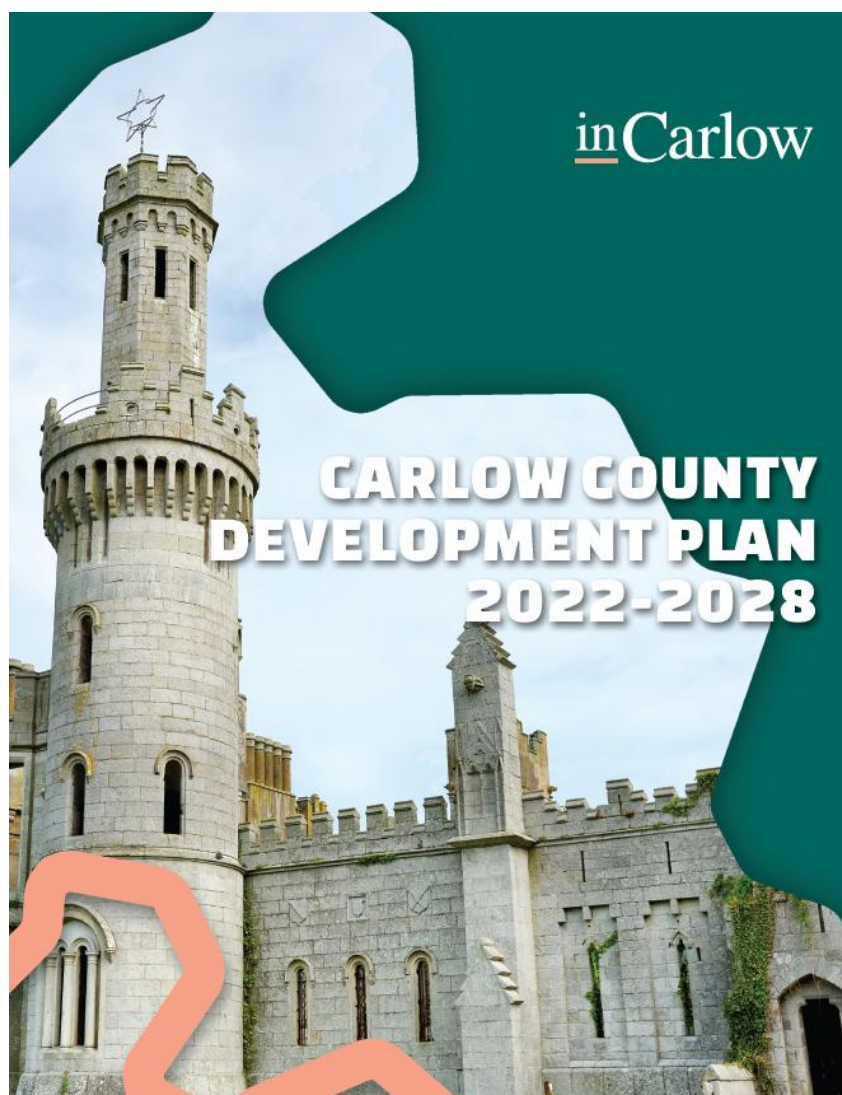
**32. SECURITY**

It is the Bank's policy to require security (collateral) where, having regard to the nature and value of the facility being offered, and the circumstances of the Borrower, it considers the provision of security to be reasonable.

**33. DATA PROTECTION NOTICE:**

For information in relation to how we collect personal information about you, how we use it and how you can interact with us about it, please see our data protection notice available in branches and online which may change from time to time.

In Process



## Proposed Variation No. 2 of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022- 2028

Report to the members of  
Carlow County Council under  
Section 13(4) of the Planning  
and Development Act 2000  
(as amended)

August 2025



Contents

Part 1 Introduction..... 3

Part 2:   Consideration of Submissions..... 6

Part 3 : Submission on Appendices..... 57

Appendix 1: List of persons / Bodies who made Submissions..... 62

Appendix 2: Copy of Public Advert ..... 63

Appendix 3: List of Bodies Notified..... 65

## Part 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022 - 2028

In accordance with Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Carlow County Council is proposing a variation of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028. The proposed variation can be viewed on the Council's online consultation portal:

[Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 - Proposed Variation No. 2 | Carlow County Council's Online Consultation Portal](#)

The reason for the proposed variation is:

- To make a new local land use plan (**District Town Plan**) for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak, which will establish the strategic planning framework to guide the proper planning and sustainable development of the town, and which will replace and build on the previously operative Muine Bheag/Royal Oak Local Area Plan 2017-2023 (as extended), while taking account of national and regional planning policy, the key planning issues for the area that have emerged in the intervening period to date, and the Core Strategy of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.
- To incorporate the **draft and final Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan** into the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028, and to ensure consistency of the **Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan** with the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028, it is proposed to vary the County Development Plan.

### 1.2 Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

Section 13(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) states that, not later than 8 weeks after giving notice of a proposed variation to the development plan under subsection (2)(b), the Chief Executive of a planning authority shall prepare a report on any submissions or observations received under that subsection and shall submit the report to the members of the authority for their consideration. This Chief Executive's Report has been prepared for consideration by the members of Carlow County Council to fulfil this requirement under Section 13(4)(a).

The required content of this Chief Executive's Report is set out under Section 13(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). A report under Section 13(4)(a) shall:

- (i) List the persons or bodies who made submissions or observations under this section,
- (ii) Provide a summary of –
  - (I) the recommendations, submissions and observations made by the Minister, where the notice under paragraph (a) of subsection (2) was sent before the establishment of the Office of the Planning Regulator,
  - (II) the recommendations, submissions and observations made by the Office of the Planning Regulator, and

- (III) the submissions and observations made by any other persons, in relation to the proposed variation
- (iii) Give the response of the Chief Executive to the issues raised, taking account of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the statutory obligations of any local authority in the area and any relevant policies or objectives for the time being of the Government or of any Minister of the Government.

Furthermore, a report under paragraph (a) shall summarise the issues raised, and recommendations made by the relevant regional assembly in its written submission and outline the recommendations of the Chief Executive in relation to the manner in which those issues and recommendations should be addressed in the development plan.

### **1.3 Draft Consultation Process**

The proposed variation was placed on display during the period of 24 June 2025 to 28 July 2025. The aim of the consultation process was to enable the public and interested parties to give their observations on the proposed variation. A total of 20 submissions were made. The submissions are held on file and are available for inspection on Council's online consultation portal (link provided in Section 1.1).

### **1.4 Consideration of Submissions**

Each submission made has been summarised and assessed in Part 2 of this report and the recommendations of the Chief Executive are given in Part 3 of this report. This report is submitted to the Council Members for their consideration.

### **1.5 Next Steps – Variation Timetable**

The Elected Members of the planning authority are required to consider the proposed variation and this Chief Executive's Report. If the planning authority, after considering a submission, observation or recommendation from the Minister, Office of the Planning Regulator or Regional Authority, decides not to comply with a recommendation made by such, it shall so inform the Minister, OPR or Regional Authority as relevant as soon as practicable by written notice and shall include the reasons for the decision. The consideration of the variation and the Chief Executive's Report shall be completed not later than 6 weeks after the submission of the Chief Executive's Report to the members of the planning authority

Having considered the proposed variation and Chief Executive's Report, the members of the planning authority may, by resolution, either:

- (i) make the variation with or without further modification,
- (ii) refuse to make the variation, where a further modification, if made, would constitute a 'material alteration' of the variation, the following shall be carried out:

- The planning authority shall determine if a strategic environmental assessment or an appropriate assessment or both, is required to be carried out for a proposed modification. Within 2 weeks of such a determination, the Chief Executive shall

specify the period that is considered necessary to facilitate the carrying out of a SEA/AA.

- The planning authority shall publish notice of a proposed material alteration and any determination that requires the carrying out of an SEA/AA. The proposed material alteration and any determination shall be on public display for a period of not less than 4 weeks and submissions invited. All submissions shall be taken into account before the variation of the development plan is made.
- The SEA/AA shall be carried out within the period specified by the Chief Executive.
- A further modification\* can be made to the variation where it is 'minor' in nature and therefore not likely to have significant effects on the environment or adversely affect the integrity of a European site and shall not be made where it refers to an increase in the area of land zoned for any purpose, or an addition to or a deletion from the record of protected structures. Formally, making a variation is done by resolution of the Council.

In making a variation to a development plan, the members are restricted to considering the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the statutory obligations of a local authority and any relevant policies or objectives of the Government or any Minister of the Government. Where a planning authority makes a variation in a development plan, it shall publish a notice of the making of the variation in at least one newspaper circulating in its area. A variation made to a development plan shall have effect from the day that the variation is made.



## Part 2: Consideration of Submissions

No.	Name	Issues Raised
<b>CLW-C162-1</b>	<b>Health and Safety Authority</b>	Reference is made to the HSA document 'Guidance on Technical Land-Use Planning Advice' and to the consultation distance for the Royal Oak Distillery designated under the Seveso Directive that should be referenced in the County Development Plan.
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
<p>The content of the HSA submission is noted. The proposed variation acknowledges the technical advice provided by the HSA and relevant technical advice to support land use planning (Ref: Section A 8.7).</p> <p>The consultation distance with the HSA, applicable for Royal Oak Distillery is also identified on Map 8.1: 400m HSA Consultation Distance for Royal Oak Distillery as a Lower-Tier COMAH Establishment. The Council will seek technical advice from the HSA in relation to any planning application within the prescribed consultation distance as appropriate.</p>		
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>		
No change.		

No.	Name	Issues Raised
<b>CLW-C162-2</b>	<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	The EPA acknowledges notice of the Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028. They recommend that their guidance document on SEA for land use plans is taken into account, and that the proposed variation aligns with higher-level plans and programmes, including the National Planning Framework and Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. The EPA also note the requirements of the SEA Regulations regarding the information to be contained in an Environmental Report, along with the requirement for an SEA Statement of the variation, once made.
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
See Part 3 for response to EPA submission pertaining to Appendix 1 Strategic Environmental Assessment.		
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>		
See Part 3 for Chief Executive recommendation to EPA submission pertaining to Appendix 1 Strategic Environmental Assessment.		

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-3	Office of Public Works	<p>The OPW specifically addresses flood risk management as relating to:</p> <p><b>PFRA and National CFRAM Programme:</b>                      Muine Bheag / Royal Oak was not identified as an Area of Potentially Significant Flood Risk (APSFRs) during the PFRA cycles and was not an Area of Further Assessment (AFA) for the National CFRAM Programme.</p> <p>The OPW refer to Section 4.2 of the SFRA that South Eastern CFRAM Flood Mapping was verified by a walkover and consultation with the local authority.</p> <p>Advise that the Council should carry out a review of SSFRAs for new Industry and Warehousing Developments located in Flood Zone A, constructed since CFRAM was completed.</p> <p><b>NIFM and Dunleckney Stream:</b>                      NIFM mapping was produced for Dunleckney Stream, but the hydraulic modelling carried out by the Council in 2016 is a more detailed and robust assessment. The OPW welcomes and encourages hydraulic modelling to produce flood mapping for watercourses for which no predictive flood mapping is available.</p> <p>Two small areas of flood extents on the Town Centre land use zoning appear to have been omitted. The OPW request this is reviewed and updated, including the SFRA as appropriate.</p> <p><b>Historic Flooding:</b>                      It is advised that the Council submit a flood event report for December 2015 flooding in the town, and any other information on past floods for inclusion in the OPWs database to <a href="mailto:reportfloodevent@opw.ie">reportfloodevent@opw.ie</a></p> <p><b>Section 7.5 Dunleckny:</b>                      Section 7.5 of the SFRA on Dunleckny has not discussed the flood risk to the <i>Community / Education</i> land use zoning. This is the location of the Bagenalstown Outdoor Heated Swimming Pool. The Council should review if this development is appropriate as the flood zones appear to overlap with the lands.</p> <p><b>Policy Objective:</b>                      The OPW welcomes policy A8. P15 regarding the approach for existing already developed lands that contain inappropriate development and for lands zoned <i>Agriculture</i>.</p> <p>The Council should update the cross-referenced errors in the policy and also reference the policy in the relative discussions on these areas in the SFRA. The County Development Plan policies and objectives have been listed in the SFRA, however for</p>

		<p>completeness the policies and objectives of this Plan should also be listed.</p> <p><b>Consideration of Climate Change Impacts:</b>                      The OPW welcomes the inclusion of the future scenario mapping in the SFRA, however the SFRA or the Draft Plan have not addressed how climate change has been considered in the development of this settlement plan.</p> <p>It would be useful if the land use zoning map was overlaid with the future scenario mapping to show the sites / lands where there could potentially be an increase in flood risk in the future.</p> <p>An area zoned for <i>Enterprise and Employment</i> has been shown to be at risk in the high-end future scenario. The Council should provide further detail regarding how risk to this area might be mitigated.</p> <p><b>Nature-based Solutions and SuDS:</b>                      The OPWS's Flood Risk Management Guidelines recommend that the SFRA provide guidance on the likely applicability of different SuDS techniques for managing surface water run-off at key development sites, and where integrated and area-based provision of SuDS and green infrastructure are appropriate in order to avoid reliance on individual site by site solutions. There are a number of Settlement Consolidation Sites, Regeneration Sites and Large New Residential Zonings and Strategic Employment Lands identified in the Draft Plan where integrated and area-based provision of SuDS and green infrastructure may be appropriate in this context.</p>
--	--	---

#### Opinion of the Chief Executive

##### **PFRA and National CFRAM Programme:**

A review of 3 no. site specific FRAs has been undertaken for the developments in the Industrial and Warehousing lands. Only one FRA provided a hydraulic model offering any update to existing CFRAM flood extents. The results from the FRA were less extensive than the CFRAM, did not present any comparison between the two models or any further information on model proving and as such there was not a sufficient evidence base provided to allow the data to be adopted by the SFRA.

##### **NIFM and Dunleckny Stream:**

The updated NIFM mapping for the Dunleckny Stream is noted.

Figure 4-8 in the SFRA contains a draft version of the mapping for the Dunleckny Stream and will be updated. There is however no change to the Flood Zones as published, or that shown in Draft Plan Map A11.1 Land Use Zoning.

##### **Historic Flooding:**

The submission will be referred to the MD Office and Environment Department for inclusion in the OPWs database.

### Section 7.5 Dunleckny:

This is noted and the small overlap can be addressed in this section.

### Policy Objective: A8.P15:

The errors referenced will be updated to cross reference relevant section of the SFRA.

### Consideration of Climate Change Impacts:

Section 7.2 of the SFRA will be updated to address the climate change impacts in more detail.

### Nature-based Solutions and SuDS:

The SFRA will be updated to provide high level guidance on the likely applicability of different SuDS techniques for managing surface water run-off.

## Chief Executive's Recommendation

### NIFM and Dunleckny Stream:

The SFRA will be updated to reflect the NIFM mapping for the Dunleckny Stream.

### Section 7.5 Dunleckny:

The small overlap between flood zones and the community zoning will be addressed in this section.

### Amend Policy A8.P15 be the deletion of red text and addition of green text:

**A8. P15:** Manage flood risk in Muine Bheag/Royal Oak in the accordance with the following provisions:

#### Clonrusk Upper

1.Manage the risk to Industry and Warehousing zoned lands at Bagenalstown Industrial Park by ensuring the following:

- New development is not suitable in Flood Zone A.
- Development proposals should not impede existing flow paths or cause flood risk impacts to the surrounding areas.
- Extensions and renovations can be undertaken in Flood Zone A but will require an appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment.
- Any development shall also be required to be built in accordance with the Council's SuDS Policy.
- An appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **8.2** ~~Error! Reference source not found.~~ of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) prepared for this plan would be required.

2.Manage the risk to Agriculture zoned lands adjoining the River Barrow and rail line with the following strategies:

- New developments, infill residential development, and demolition and reconstruction can only take place in Flood Zone C.
- Limited to extensions, renovations and change of use if a residential property is within Flood Zone A/B.
- There are to be no bedrooms on the ground floor when extending existing residential property in Flood Zone A/B.
- Any future development should be subject to an appropriately detailed Flood Risk

Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **8.2** ~~Error! Reference source not found.~~ of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) prepared for this plan.

- All new development should, where possible, consider the opportunity to include nature- based solutions and SuDS for the management of stormwater as outlined in the Council's SuDS policy.

#### **Clonrusk Upper and Royal Oak**

**1.**Manage the risk to Transport and Utilities zoned lands adjoining the River Barrow by ensuring the following:

- For new development the sequential approach should be applied and highly vulnerable elements of the site should be located in Flood Zone C, or raised/bunded/protected;
- Any future development should be subject to a Flood Risk Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **8.3** ~~Error! Reference source not found.~~ of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for this plan and must specifically address the following:
  - FRA should address climate change scenarios in relation to operational levels and potential mitigation measures;
  - Proposals should not impede existing flow paths or cause flood risk impacts to the surrounding areas, and;
  - Any development shall also be required to be built in accordance with CCC SuDS Policy.

#### **Dunleckney**

**1.**Manage the risk to Enterprise and Employment zoned lands and at former Dunleckney Maltings site by ensuring the following:

- New development is not suitable in Flood Zone A.
- Development proposals should not impede existing flow paths or cause flood risk impacts to the surrounding areas.
- Extensions and renovations can be undertaken in Flood Zone A but will require an appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment, as noted below.
- Any development shall also be required to be built in accordance the Council's SuDS Policy.
- An appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **8.5** ~~Error! Reference source not found.~~ of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for this plan would be required.

#### **Kilcarrig East**

**1.**Manage the risk to Industry and Warehousing zoned lands at Carlow Warehousing Ltd. site by ensuring the following:

- New development is not suitable in Flood Zone A.
- Development proposals should not impede existing flow paths or cause flood risk impacts to the surrounding areas.
- Extensions and renovations can be undertaken in Flood Zone A but will require an appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment, as noted below.

- Any development shall also be required to be built in accordance with the Council's SuDS Policy.
- An appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **8.6—Error! Reference source not found.** of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for this plan would be required.

**2.**Manage the risk to Enterprise and Employment zoned lands at car sales site by using the following approach:

- New development is not suitable in Flood Zone A.
- Development proposals should not impede existing flow paths or cause flood risk impacts to the surrounding areas.
- Extensions and renovations can be undertaken in Flood Zone A but will require an appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment, as noted below.
- Any development shall also be required to be built in accordance with the Council's SuDS Policy.
- An appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **8.6—Error! Reference source not found.** of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for this plan would be required.

**3.**Manage the risk to Agriculture zoned lands with the following strategies:

- New developments, infill residential development, and demolition and reconstruction can only take place in Flood Zone C.
- Limited to extensions, renovations and change of use if a residential property is within Flood Zone A/B.
- There are to be no bedrooms on the ground floor when extending existing residential property in Flood Zone A/B.
- Any future development should be subject to an appropriately detailed Flood Risk Assessment which should follow the general guidance provided in Section **Error! Reference source not found.** of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for this plan.
- All new development should, where possible, consider the opportunity to include nature-based solutions and SuDS for the management of stormwater as outlined in the Council's SuDS policy.

#### **Consideration of Climate Change Impacts:**

Section 7.2 of the SFRA will be updated to discuss the climate change impacts in more detail. This will involve mapping overlay with LU Zonings and for the Enterprise and Employment lands then development within the HEFS 1% AEP climate change outlines will be restricted to an appropriate vulnerability with no increase in ground levels.

#### **Nature-based Solutions and SuDS:**

The SFRA will be updated to provide high level guidance on the likely applicability of different SuDS techniques for managing surface water run-off at key development sites, and where integrated and area-based provision of SuDS and green infrastructure are appropriate in order to avoid reliance on individual site by site solutions.

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-4	Office of the Planning Regulator	<p>The office of the OPR has evaluated and assessed the proposed variation under the provisions of sections 31AM(1) and (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and has advised as follows:</p> <p><b>Overview:</b></p> <p>The OPR welcomes the proposed Variation which will result in the integration of the proposed Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan into the County Development Plan placing the land use zoning and policy objectives on a statutory footing within the County Development Plan, following the expiration of the Muine Bheag/Royal Oak Local Area Plan 2017-2023 (as extended).</p> <p>It notes that the proposed variation sets out a well-balanced approach to the future development of the town, with an appropriate focus on the continued development of the town centre and the zoning of residential land close to the town centre in proximity to existing services and in a manner that promotes compact growth and sustainable development.</p> <p><b>1.Consistency with development plan and core strategy:</b></p> <p>The OPR has no significant concerns in relation to the quantum or location of residential zoned land in the proposed variation and considers that the residential sites are well-located in terms of proximity to the town centre, at locations where they support compact growth, and adopt the sequential approach.</p> <p>Table 3.2 of the proposed variation provides for 510 housing units for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak from 2025 to 2031. The OPR accepts the approach to extrapolate the County Development Plan housing supply target for an additional three years to 2031 (i.e. 295 plus 148 units). However, the Planning Authority seems to have mis-applied the Development Plans, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2022) (the Development Plans Guidelines) in this respect i.e. under section 4.4.3 of the Development Plans Guidelines 'additional provision' is a basis to provide additional Residential zoned lands to ensure a sufficient supply of zoned land (i.e. it applies to the requirement for zoned land and not to the housing target). It should not therefore affect the housing supply target.</p> <p><b>1.1Infrastructure Assessment:</b></p> <p>The Infrastructure Assessment would benefit from setting out the site areas (ha) for all the sites and the potential housing yield for the sites zoned New Residential, Regeneration, Consolidation Sites and Town Centre. This information should also be transposed into chapter A.2.0: CDP Strategy for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak of the proposed Variation.</p> <p><b>1.2Residential Development Strategy:</b></p>

		<p>The OPR notes that Infrastructure Assessment site MB11 (Appendix 5 and Map A11.2 Objectives Map) is a Greenfield site (c.2.4 ha) and recommends it is rezoned from Existing/Infill Residential to New Residential and update the quantum of residential zoned lands accordingly throughout the Variation</p> <p><b>1.3Densities:</b> Section A.4.2 of the proposed Variation estimates the residential land capacity and states that a 'maximum density of 25 units per hectare' is applied. Having regard to Policy and Objective 3.1 of the Compact Settlements Guidelines, the Office requests that the reference to maximum densities is removed from the proposed Variation.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 1 – Settlement Strategy:</b> Having regard to relevant national policy and guidelines, the OPR recommends that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site MB11 is rezoned from Existing/Infill Residential to New Residential and the quantum of residential zoned lands is updated accordingly.</li> <li>• Table 3.2 in the proposed variation is amended to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- clarify the housing supply target as 443 consistent with the core strategy of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.</li> <li>- include the amount of zoned land required (ha) to achieve the proposed housing targets.</li> <li>- include the quantum of residential zoned land (ha) within the Variation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A table is inserted in the Infrastructure Assessment which sets out the site areas (ha) and the potential housing yield in each case for New Residential (including MB11 land), Regeneration, Settlement Consolidation Sites and Town Centre lands, and that this table should also be inserted into chapter A.2.0.</li> <li>• removes reference to maximum densities in section A.4.2.</li> </ul> <p><b>2.Sustainable Travel</b> The OPR welcomes the preparation of the LTP for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak, which has the potential to deliver an integrated approach to land use planning for the town. However, the OPR is concerned that the active travel measures have not been adequately prioritised with a view to the lifetime of the plan. In this regard, the transport strategy should prioritise infrastructure that is within realistic walking and cycling distances from existing employment, educational and recreational areas and into appropriately zoned emerging development areas.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 2 – Integration of transport and land use planning</b> Having regard to relevant national policy and guidelines, the OPR recommends that:</p>
--	--	---



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The priority active travel measures incorporated into the proposed Variation from the Local Transport Plan are reviewed to ensure that there is a clear alignment between transport and land use planning over the plan period; and</li> <li>• The timeframes of the priority transport projects are identified and included in the District Town Plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.Flood Risk</b></p> <p>The OPR welcomes the preparation of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and the inclusion of Policy A8. P15 relating to the management of flood risk in the proposed Variation.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 3 – Flood Risk Management</b></p> <p>Having regard to relevant national policy and guidelines, the OPR recommends that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The text of section 7.2 of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) is reviewed for Clonrusk Upper to highlight the findings of the climate change mapping, as per figures 4-6 and 4-7 of the SFRA.</li> <li>• All areas of flooding associated with the Dunleckney Stream which will affect the development of site MB9 should be shown on Map A11.2 Objectives Map (see figure 4-8 of the SFRA).</li> <li>• Include Policy A8. P15 in the SFRA.</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Regeneration</b></p> <p>The OPR welcomes the approach taken by the Planning Authority to focus on the consolidation of the town core, with six Town Centre Opportunity Sites identified. The OPR commends the Planning Authority on the presentation and clarity of the development objectives for these sites.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 4 – Regeneration</b></p> <p>The OPR recommends that the Planning Authority sets out the key development priorities and ambitions for the Regeneration and Settlement Consolidation Sites, including the permeability links and / or active travel provisions.</p> <p><b>Other matters</b></p> <p>The OPR requests the Planning Authority to ensure that the legend on the maps refer to the map boundary as 'District Town Plan Boundary' and not 'Draft Muine Bheag/Royal Oak Local Area Plan Boundary' (see Built Heritage map).</p>
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
<p>The content of the submission is noted and proposed amendments to accord with the recommendations are accepted and outlined in the recommendations of the Chief Executive hereunder. For clarity, the core strategy figures as outlined hereunder incorporates the residual provision as contained in Table 2.7 of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p>		

Chief Executive’s Recommendation

Recommendation 1 – Settlement Strategy:

Site MB11 : comprises part of a larger site, previously permitted development pursuant to permission 01/667 ABP: 01.130072 and more recently expired permission reference 18/381. The site (c.2ha) provides access to an existing football pitch immediately adjoining to the south. As the permission has expired rezoning of the site to new residential is acceptable, however development of the site shall have regard to the key development priorities for the site as recommended in Table 6.2 (see response to Recommendation No. 4)

Having regard to the foregoing, projecting out the unit target figure of 295 units over a further 3 years, results in additional requirement for 148 units. (i.e. total of 443 units). In accordance with Table 2.7 of the Carlow County Development Plan an additional provision of 74 units was provided over the relevant plan period 2022-2028. This amounts to a figure of 517 units over the plan period excluding any additional provision (over the remaining development plan period) in zoned land deemed appropriate pursuant to the recently published Section 28 Guidelines NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements (July 2025).

~~Applying the additional residual provision per the Development Plan Guidelines and the Core Strategy of the Carlow County Development Plan, results in an additional allocation of 111 units. An overall unit requirement of 510 has therefore been calculated to take account of:~~

- ~~• The projected allocation of 148 units to cover the additional 3 years. This projected allocation is based on an average per annum calculation i.e. 295 ÷ 6 years = circa 49 units per year.~~
- ~~• Applying the additional residual provision (25%) per the Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities and the Core Strategy of the Carlow County Development Plan (additional 111 units).~~
- ~~• The subtraction of 44 units constructed since 2022.~~

	UNITS
Core Strategy Unit Allocation to 2028	295
Plus 25% Residual Provision Units 2022-2028 (as per CDP)	<del>111</del> 74
Plus 3-year projected unit allocation to 2031 (i.e., 49 units per annum*3)	148
Muine Bheag/Royal Oak unit target to 2031	517

Table 3.2: Projected Unit Allocation to 2031 for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak

The delivery of 517 units at an indicative density varying between 20 and 25 units per hectare would result in a requirement of c.22ha of land availability for residential purposes. It is acknowledged that certain sites may have capacity to deliver densities in excess of the above, in particular high-quality schemes within or adjacent to the town centre. The ~~projected housing target figure arrived~~ quantum of zoned new residential land as proposed amounts to c.27ha for residential schemes and is considered reasonable in light of the urgent need to increase housing delivery and to optimise the ability to deliver on the housing requirements of the ~~and robust, and particularly in view of the policy approach in the~~ Revised NPF and the recent capacity upgrade at the WWTP serving the town. The housing target will provide sufficient capacity to meet future population growth and housing requirements for the town. The residential land use zonings are appropriately

located and serviced and will provide a degree of flexibility to ensure the housing target can be achieved should any unforeseen impediments to the development of certain lands arise.

**Table to be inserted for IA and Chapter A.2.0**

Site	Zoning	Site Area	Indicative Housing Yield
MB1 (Ashfield)	New Residential	5.ha	125
MB2 (Moneybeg)	New Residential	3.8ha	95
MB3 (Dunleckny)	New Residential	7.6ha	150
MB4 (Dunleckny)	New Residential	6.7ha	134
MB11 (Ashfield)	*proposed change from existing residential / infill to new residential	2.2ha	55
MB12 (Royal Oak)	*Proposed change from Enterprise and Employment to New Residential	2ha	52
MB6 (Long Range-Consolidation Site)	Existing Residential / Infill	0.47ha	10
<b>Total Residential Yield</b>			<b>621</b>
MB7 (Canal Area – Regeneration Site)	Town Centre – mixed use	1.8ha	50
MB8 (Quays Area – Regeneration Site)	Town Centre - mixed use	0.93ha	
MB9 (Jordans Field)	Town Centre – mixed use (Council owned site)	2.08ha	
MB10 (Kilcarrig-Regeneration Site)	Town Centre – mixed use (existing established haulage company)	0.60ha	N/A
MB5 (Royal Oak-Regeneration Site)	Enterprise and Employment	2.91ha	N/A

**A.4.2 Estimated Residential Land Capacity** The quantum of ‘New Residential’ zoned land in Muine Bheag/Royal Oak is c. ~~23~~ 27 hectares for residential schemes and is shown on Map 4.1.

This land can deliver an estimated c.~~575~~ 621 units, utilising a ~~maximum~~ indicative density ranging between 20 and 25 units per hectare. Table 3.3 of the Core Strategy in the County Development Plan also identifies 2.42 ha of Town Centre zoned land that can accommodate an element of residential development (potential for 52 units to be delivered). It is therefore considered that there is sufficient land in the town to meet the housing unit target figure of 517 units as identified in Section A.2.0.

**Recommendation 2 – Integration of transport and land use planning**

The content of Recommendation No. 2 is noted. The LTP, includes a comprehensive prioritisation of active travel measures using the Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) and Multi - criteria analysis methodologies. It also sets out indicative timeframes for implementation across all transport modes. The Sustainable Travel and Transportation section of the District Town Plan transposes many of these measures into policy objectives (e.g., A7.P1 – P18 and A7.O1 – O10). For further clarity, it is recommended that Table 5.1-5.4 which outline implementation of options and timeframes be included at the end of section A7.4.2. The deliverability of the proposed transport / active travel measures are subject to funding availability, resource capacity and alignment with statutory processes and investment opportunities.

**Include New text and tables in green Table 7.2-7.5 Implementation of Options and Timeframes at the end of Section A7.4.2 LTP Strategy Options**

**Implementation of Options and Timeframes**

Indicative timeframes for the implementation of proposed transport measures are outlined in the LTP (Ref: Section 5.3) and in Tables 7.2-7.5 . Timescales are defined as follows:

- Short term: implementation within 1–2 years
- Medium term: implementation within 3–5 years
- Long term: implementation within 6–10 years

Each measure will require further development through detailed planning, design and technical assessment. Delivery will be subject to funding availability, resource capacity, and alignment with statutory processes and investment priorities. These timeframes are therefore provisional and will be revisited following public consultation and as funding streams are confirmed. All projects will be developed in line with relevant national guidance and will be subject to appropriate environmental assessment, public consultation, and engagement with statutory stakeholders.

Table 7.2 Proposed Timeframes for Walking and Cycling Options	Timeframe
Option	
R705 North (Option 1)	Medium
Stationhouse Road / Market Square (Option 1)	Long
R724 East (Option 1)	Long
R724 Royal Oak Bridge (Option 3)	Long
R705 / L3044	Medium
R705 / The Parade	Medium
Bachelors Walk / Market Square	Long
R705 Kilree Street	Medium
Town Centre / Main Street	Long
Barrett Street / Church Street / Fair Green	Long
Bachelors Walk / Barrett Street / Regent Street / Pump Street	Long

Long Range / Convent Hill / Bachelors Walk	Medium
South of Royal Oak Road	Long
Royal Oak Road	Long
The Barrow Way	Medium
E-Bikes / E-Scooter Hire	Medium
Payment Systems for E-bikes / E-scooters	Medium
Walking and Cycling Buses for Schools	Short
Cycle to Work / School	Short
Cycle Incentive Programs	Short
Cycle Skills Workshops / Proficiency	Short
Cycle Safety Campaigns	Short
<b>Table 7.3 Proposed Timeframes for Public Transport Options</b>	
<b>Option</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Bus Timetable & Waiting Facilities Improvement	Medium
Muine Bheag Railway Station Bus Link	Medium
Town Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)	Medium
Mobile App and Ticketing Integration	Long
Ticketing Upgrade	Medium
Railway Station Upgrade	Long
<b>Table 7.4: Proposed Timeframes for Roads Options</b>	
<b>Option</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Muine Bheag Relief Road and Access Road	Long
Proposed Junction Upgrades	Medium
Bachelor’s Walk / Hotel St One-Way System	Long
Queen of the Universe National School - One-Way System (Option 2)	Long
<b>Table 7.5 Proposed Timeframes for Parking Options</b>	
<b>Option</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
School / College / Pre-School Park and Stride	Medium
Town Public Realm Scheme	Medium
Town Centre Public Realm Extension	Short
Railway Station Parking Provision	Medium
Railway Station Mobility Hub	Medium
Parking Mobile Phone Application	Long
New Development Parking (Option 1)	Long
New Development Parking (Option 2)	Long
Town Centre Parking Strategy	Medium
Electric Vehicle Charging	Medium
Parking Restrictions around Schools	Short
<b>Recommendation 3 – Flood Risk Management</b>	
(i) Section 7.2 of the SFRA will be updated to discuss the climate change impacts in more detail. This will involve mapping overlay with LU Zonings and for the Enterprise and Employment lands then development within the HEFS 1% AEP climate change outlines will be restricted to an appropriate vulnerability with no increase in ground levels.	
(ii) Figure 4-8 in the SFRA contains a draft version of the mapping for the Dunleckney Stream and will be updated. There is however no change to the Flood Zones as published, or that shown in Draft Plan Map A11.1 or A11.2 Land Use Zoning.	
(iii) The SFRA will be updated with all flood risk and stormwater policies from the written statement.	

#### Recommendation 4 – Regeneration

Include additional Table 6.2 before Map 6.3 Settlement and Consolidation Sites outlining the key development priorities and ambitions for the Regeneration and Settlement Consolidation Sites, including the permeability links and / or active travel provisions

**TABLE 6.2: SETTLEMENT CONSOLIDATION AND REGENERATION SITES**

**SETTLEMENT  
CONSOLIDATION  
SITE 1: LAND  
ADJOINING LONG  
RANGE**

Settlement Consolidation Site 1 (zoned existing/infill residential) comprises a centrally located parcel of land with frontage onto the western side of Long Range (L3020). Long Range junctions with the Royal Oak Road (R724) to the immediate south of the site and with Regent Street (L3024) to the north. The boundary of the site facing Long Range is delineated by a stone wall that is positioned behind a narrow strip of soft landscaping and adjoining public footpath.

There is an opportunity to consolidate with the prevailing pattern of development at this location through the provision of a small-scale residential scheme that is sympathetic to the form and scale of existing residential development on adjoining lands to the north and to the west at Eastwood. The redevelopment of the site also provides potential scope for more active frontage onto Long Range, and to provide a permeability (active travel) link between Long Range and Eastwood, where none such link currently exists.

**SETTLEMENT  
CONSOLIDATION  
SITE 2: LAND  
ADJOINING THE  
PARADE**

Settlement Consolidation Site 2 (zoned town centre) occupies central position with significant frontage onto The Parade (L3022) to the west, next to the commercial core of the town, and next to the grounds of Bagenalstown House to the north. An Aldi supermarket is directly opposite the site to the west at the other side of The Parade. Existing residential development at Pairc Mhuire is located to the south and east of the site.

The site presents a strategic opportunity to develop centrally located and accessible greenfield land for a high-quality mixed-use scheme that contributes to town centre living, to the potential for additional and complimentary commercial development, and to the enhancement of the public realm and adjoining streetscape. There also exists potential to enhance connectivity in the area, through the creation of active travel links with existing residential development to the south and east, with new residential zoned lands to the east, and with the grounds of Bagenalstown House to the north (zoned tourism and leisure). Refer to the Local Transport Plan in this regard, and to the indicative access road option shown on Maps A11.1 and A11.2.

**SETTLEMENT  
CONSOLIDATION  
SITE 3: LAND  
ADJOINING THE  
CRESENT  
RESIDENTIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

Settlement Consolidation Site 3 (zoned new residential) is located towards the western end of the town, accessed from the Royal Oak Road (R724) and through existing residential development at Ashfield. It is an undeveloped parcel of land, but provides access to a playing pitch to the south in use by Kilree Celtic FC.

The development of the site for housing would provide a logical consolidation of the existing adjoining housing to the north, east and west.

	<p>It would also serve to complete and enhance the existing built fabric and appearance of the area, including the provision of additional potential connectivity/permeability east-west and north-south. The layout and design of any proposal for the site should give consideration to incorporating and maintaining the existing access to the playing pitch to the south.</p>
<p><b>REGENERATION SITE 1: CANAL AREA</b></p>	<p>Regeneration Site 1 (zoned town centre) adjoins the canal area along the Barrow to the north, the L7165 local road to the south serving residential properties at Eastwood and Slí na Rí, Convent Hill to the east, and public open space at Slí na Rí to the west. The site is in commercial use (trailer and truck body sales), and includes sheds, warehouses, outbuildings, and open storage yards associated with same. The site is also occupied by Lodge Mills, a visually prominent 7-storey mill building dating from 1824, and an important built heritage feature at this location and a protected structure (RPS Ref. CW392 and NIAH Ref. 10400604).</p> <p>This is an underutilised site that presents opportunities to deliver a high-quality mixed-use development that can make a positive contribution to the built fabric of the area, and better integration and linkages with the canal area and with the town centre to the south. A heritage-led re-development approach that comprehensively addresses the historic importance, conservation and appropriate reuse of Lodge Mills as a central element will be of particular importance, including its association with the Barrow Navigation, and with historic structures that remain in proximity to the north i.e. Lifting Bridge (RPS Ref. CW391), Lock No. 10 (RPS Ref. CW390), and Lock Keeper's House (RPS Ref. CW379). The regeneration of the site also provides potential to tie in with and enhance the potential of the proposed permeability options for walking, cycling and greenway routes identified for the area in the Local Transport Plan, particularly along the Barrow towpath to the west and the Quays area to the east.</p>
<p><b>REGENERATION SITE 2: QUAYS AREA</b></p>	<p>Regeneration Site 2 (zoned town centre) comprises two blocks fronting onto the quays to the north and Regent Street to the south, and with north-south linkages between both provided by Singletons Lane and Barrow Lane. A larger part of the eastern portion of the overall site appear underutilised and occupied by warehouses and sheds, along Singletons Lane and the quays. The western end of the site includes an existing 4-storey apartment development. Terraced housing and some retail uses (2 no. units) form the boundaries of the site with Regent Street and Barrow Lane.</p> <p>The more recent apartment development on the site has made a contribution to the regeneration of the area. However, the provision of a mixed-use development, particularly at the eastern portion of the site, including commercial and retail uses, has the potential to generate more activity and active street frontage, with knock-on benefits for the appearance and use of Singletons Lane and the quays, including increased interaction between the area and the traditional town centre.</p> <p>The site benefits from existing walking connections to the surrounding area, including along the quays, Singletons Lane, Barrow Lane and Regent</p>



	<p>Street. Potential for the quays and the two lanes to function as quiet active travel routes is identified in the Local Transport Plan, with linkages to segregated cycleway options southwards to the traditional town centre and shared spaces eastward and westwards along the quays and Barrow towpath.</p>
<p><b>REGENERATION SITE 3: BROWNFIELD LAND ADJOINING ROYAL OAK</b></p>	<p>Regeneration Site 3 (zoned enterprise and employment) is brownfield land comprising the location of the former meat factory site, which has prominent frontage onto the Royal Oak Road (R724) at the western end of the town. The site forms part of the strategic employment land identified in Table 5.2 (i.e. 2. Land adjoining Royal Oak Road), and it is envisaged that it could be developed to accommodate a high-quality business park subject to the appropriate remediation of the brownfield land where the meat factory was located. The proposed redevelopment of the site would be required to be informed by a masterplan - refer to Table 5.2 for further details.</p> <p>The site benefits from a proximate and accessible location relative to the town centre, with existing adjoining footpath infrastructure along the Royal Oak Road (R724). As identified in the active travel options in the Local Transport Plan, there is potential to enhance the connectivity of the site with the surrounding area, including the town centre, through the provision of a segregated cycleway on the Royal Oak Road and an active travel route along the Barrow towpath to the north.</p>
<p><b>REGENERATION SITE 4: BROWNFIELD LAND ADJOINING RAILWAY LINE</b></p>	<p>Regeneration Site 3 (zoned town centre) is situated on the southern side of Kilcarrig Street, directly west of and adjoining the Dublin-Waterford railway line and Kilcarrig Bridge. Surrounding land uses include Coláiste Aindriú and a playing pitch to the north at the other side of Kilcarrig Street. The site comprises a hard surfaced open yard with an entrance onto Kilcarrig Street, and which is currently in use for parking trucks and as storage compound. The roadside boundary of the site is formed by Carlow fencing, constructed of locally sourced granite and a fence type unique to the County. The site has potential for redevelopment to provide a high-quality mixed-use scheme that is more compatible with and complimentary to town centre uses, including the pattern of development on land in the vicinity to the north and west. The redevelopment of the site would also afford an opportunity to conserve and enhance the character and setting of the Carlow fencing forming its roadside boundary. In terms of active travel provisions and the site's close proximity to the traditional town centre and to the train station, its redevelopment would create opportunities for pedestrian and cycling linkages on Kilcarrig Street and Stationhouse Road.</p>
<p><b>Other matters:</b> Updates to map legends will be undertaken as appropriate.</p>	



No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-5	Uisce Éireann	<p>The content of the Uisce Éireann submission addresses the following:</p> <p><b>1.General Information</b></p> <p><b>1.1 Sustainable Drainage and Green-Blue Infrastructure</b></p> <p>Uisce Éireann encourages objectives and initiatives supporting the implementation of SuDS and the enhancement of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Uisce Éireann welcomes the provisions in the proposed variation which promote SuDS, in particular nature-based SuDS.</p> <p>Uisce Éireann is eager to collaborate with others in leveraging circularity opportunities. Consideration should be given to developing circular economy opportunities in the proposed variation i.e. development of sustainable bioeconomy model and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including advanced treatment and re-use of WWTP effluent to meet needs of adjacent industry, production of biogas through anaerobic digestion and re-use of water sludge.</p> <p><b>1.2 Planned Road and Public Realm Projects</b></p> <p>Development in the vicinity of Uisce Éireann assets must be in accordance with Standard Details and Codes of Practice, and Diversion Agreements will be required where an Uisce Éireann assets needs to be diverted/altered. Early engagement on planned road and public realm projects is requested to ensure public water services are protected and access is maintained.</p> <p><b>2.Availability of Water Services</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Zoning</b></p> <p>Sequential, phased development in areas with existing services and spare capacity is recommended to optimise existing infrastructure and minimise investment required.</p> <p>Available network information indicates network reinforcements (e.g. extensions and upgrades) may be required to service some zoned sites, and pipe size and materials are unknown across parts of the sewer network. The exact requirements to service a site will be determined through Uisce Éireann's connections process and engagement with the Connection and Developer Services team.</p> <p>Third-party agreement will be required to service new development via private property, and this applies to several zoned sites.</p> <p>Cognisance should be had to the proximity of Site MB5 to the Muinebheag and Leighlinbridge WWTP, and to the established</p>

	<p>use and potential extensions/intensification of existing treatment plants.</p> <p>Site specific water and wastewater services comments provided for Infrastructure Assessment sites MB1, MB3, MB4, MB7, MB9 and MB11, for land zoned Strategic Reserve, and for Strategic Employment Sites 2 and 3. Uisce Éireann note that the Strategic Reserve land should be able to connect to the WWPS at Philip Street.</p> <p><b>2.2 Water Supply</b> The Muinebheag/Royal Oak area is served by the Bagenalstown Water Resource Zone (WRZ) and the Water Supply Capacity Register indicates that there is currently sufficient capacity in the WRZ to cater for the projected growth within the lifetime of the District Town Plan.</p> <p><b>2.3 Water Network</b></p> <p><b>2.4 Wastewater Treatment Capacity</b> It is envisaged that the Muinebheag and Leighlinbridge WWTP has capacity to cater for the projected growth with the lifetime of the District Town Plan.</p> <p><b>2.5 Sewer Network</b> It is envisaged that capacity is available in the wastewater networks in the Muine Bheag/Royal Oak area.</p> <p>Regarding lands at Royal Oak, Uisce Éireann note that they are currently using tankers to manage the wastewater load. Reference also made to planning permission granted in 2025 for new WWPS on the western side of the river and works are expected to be completed in Q4 2027.</p> <p>Uisce Éireann provide additional comments regarding the text included in Sections A2.1, A.8.2.1, A.8.2.2 and A.8.3, Policy A8. P14 and Footnote 35 in the Appendix 1 SEA. This includes details on the upgraded capacity of the WWTP from 5,500 to 9,200, and recommended provision in the plan as applying to Policy A8. P14 to allow for access to and maintenance of existing Uisce Éireann infrastructure, and provision for new or upgrade assets which may be required within riparian buffers in limited instances.</p>
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>	
<p>The submission by Uisce Eireann is noted and welcome.</p> <p><u>General information:</u></p> <p>(i) the support for SuDS is noted together with the willingness of UE to collaborate in leveraging circularity opportunities to support the development of a sustainable bioeconomy model and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Policies and objectives to support the circular economy are addressed in Chapter 6 Infrastructure and Environmental Management and Chapter 7 Climate Action and</p>	

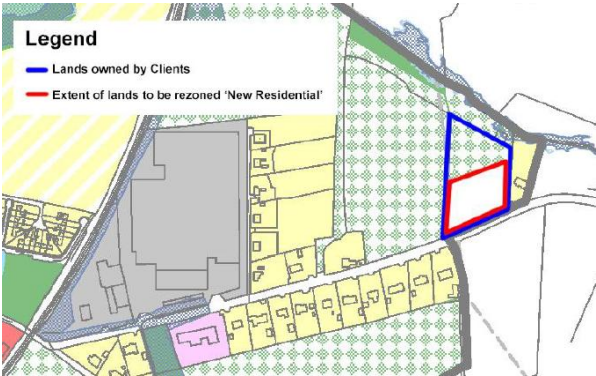
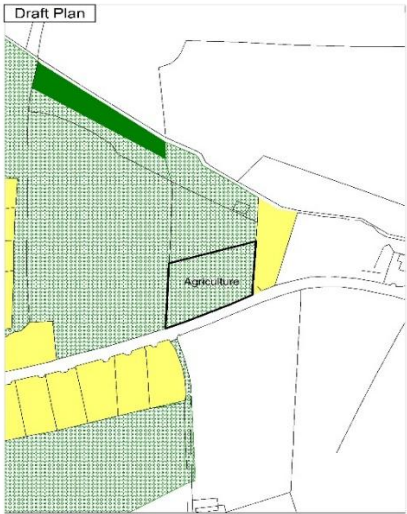
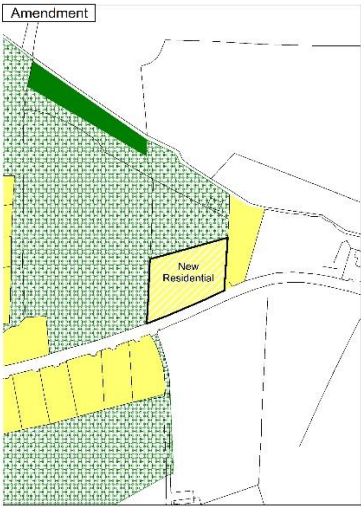
	<p>Energy of the CDP and will inform future development of such opportunities in Muine Bheag / Royal Oak.</p> <p>(ii) The Council acknowledges the requirement to engage with UE regarding works / projects / public realm / road works etc that have the potential to impact on UE assets and will comply with Standard Details and Codes of Practice as appropriate.</p> <p><u>Availability of Water Services:</u> High level information regarding the availability of water services to support future development of zoned sites is welcome. It is noted that the exact requirements to service a site will be determined through connections process with the Connection and Developer Services team. Reinforcements where required shall be developer driven unless they are committed UE projects in place to progress such works. UE assets within a number of zoned sites must be protected or diverted, together with third party agreements where the site is serviced through third party lands.</p> <p>Reference is made to regeneration site MB5 and the requirement for appropriate separation distances from the WWTP. The specific review of individual zoned sites as identified in the infrastructure assessment is noted.</p> <p>Information regarding current availability of water supply capacity and wastewater treatment capacity and network is welcome, however engagement with UE team as relevant is advised as local upgrades maybe required.</p> <p>Uisce Eireann also welcomes objectives in relation to corridors along waterbodies and watercourses (Ref: A8.P14); noting this will play an important role in protecting biodiversity and water quality. Notwithstanding it is submitted that the plan should allow for access to and maintenance of existing Uisce Eireann infrastructure. Similarly, provision of new or upgraded assets may be required within riparian buffers in limited instances e.g. new outfalls, subject to proper planning and sustainable development. This requirement to facilitate access is a matter for UE and any such explicit requirement is outside the statutory role of the plan making process.</p> <p>With reference to Section A.8.3 Surface Water Management and SuDs: Uisce Eireann recommend the use of the hierarchy of discharge outlined in the recently published guidance document <i>'Implementation of Urban Nature-based Solutions: Guidance Document for Planners, Developers and Developer Agents'</i> (November 2024).</p> <p>The suggestions on the proposed variation text are noted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Section 2.1 update capacity of wwtp (5,500 to 9,200 PE).</li><li>- Section 8.2.2 update capacity as above</li></ul> <p>Minor text amendments are noted to Section A.2.1 and A.8.2.1 which are not considered material and will be addressed in the finalised document.</p>
Chief Executive's Recommendation	
Amend Sections A2.1 and of the Plan <del>deleted text in red</del> new text in green:	

**Extract Section A.2.1 Function, Population and Scale of Muine Bheag/ Royal Oak** The wastewater constraints have recently been addressed by Uisce Éireann with the completion of works and commissioning of the upgraded wastewater treatment plant in Q1 of 2025. These works increase the design capacity of the plant from a population equivalent of ~~4,500~~ 5,500 to ~~9,800~~ 9,200 and substantially improves the treatment processes at the plant.

**Extract Section A8.2.2 Public Wastewater Collection and Treatment** Works have been completed by Uisce Éireann for the upgrade of the Muinebheag / Leighlinbridge Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The upgrade works have increased the design capacity of the WWTP from a population equivalent of ~~4,500~~ 5,500 to ~~9,800~~ 9,200 and has substantially improved the treatment processes at the plant. Sufficient capacity is available at the upgraded plant to meet projected demand.

**Extract Section A.8.3 Surface Water Management and SuDS** Current accepted best practice for managing surface water now includes the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS), nature-based solutions, and the provision/ protection of green infrastructure. These best practice approaches and systems aim to reduce flood risk, improve water quality, and enhance biodiversity and amenity. Improving biodiversity can lead to a greener and more pleasant urban environment, with associated positive implications for recreation, health, and wellbeing. By incorporating SuDS in new developments, the surface water regime of a pre-development 'greenfield' situation can be replicated as closely as possible, conveying water more slowly to the drainage system and to watercourses.

Prospective applicants and developers are advised to consult with the DHLGH 'Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas – Best Practice Interim Guidance Document, 2022' (and any subsequent editions of the Guidance), [and the recently published guidance document 'Implementation of Urban Nature-based Solutions: Guidance Document for Planners, Developers and Developer's Agents \(November 2024\)](#). These Guidance documents advise on approaches to mimic the natural water balance of rural areas through water sensitive urban design and development, [seeking to ensure greenfield runoff rates wherever possible and to adequately treat the quality of the surface water runoff before discharge to either the below ground networks or directly to receiving Waterbodies.](#)

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-6	Armstrong Planning on behalf of John Gardiner and Claire Loughran Gardiner	<p>Request the rezoning of c. 0.5ha of land at Kilcarrig from 'Agricultural' to 'New Residential':</p> <div></div> <p>In support of this rezoning request, reference is made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ National Policy Objective 24 in the NPF First Revision regarding support for the sustainable development of rural areas.</li><li>▪ Section A.2.1 of the draft plan which refers to population growth for the town as being below national and county levels.</li><li>▪ Section of the R724 between Kilcarrig Bridge and the town boundary is located in an urban area within the meaning of DMURS.</li><li>▪ Availability of existing public watermain adjoining the land.</li><li>▪ Accessibility on the R724 Regional Road, and existing footpath at southern boundary.</li><li>▪ Proximity to the town centre, and to local services.</li><li>▪ Suburban character of existing development in the area.</li><li>▪ Proposed rezoning would amount to urban infill.</li><li>▪ Land has a low flood risk.</li><li>▪ Planning Authority previously determined land suitable for residential development under reg. ref. 21/418.</li></ul>
Proposed Variation		Rezoning Request
<div></div>		<div></div>

### Opinion of the Chief Executive

The content of the submission is noted together with the planning history of the site and in particular planning reference 21/418: ABP 314389 wherein permission was sought for the construction of a two-storey dwelling, stable building, on-site wastewater treatment system, bored well, splayed entrance and all associated site development work.

The application was granted by Carlow County Council and subsequently appealed to An Bord Pleanála. Permission was refused for the following reason:

*"The proposed development is proposed on lands to which an agricultural zoning objective pertains and where the objective of the zoning seeks to retain and protect agricultural uses. Table 12 of the Muine Bheag / Royal Oak LAP 2017-2023, as extended, states that the purpose of this zoning is to ensure the retention of agricultural uses and to protect them from urban sprawl and ribbon development. Having regard to the scale of the proposed dwelling and its location in the centre of an agriculturally zoned site, and the ancillary nature of the stable development on the site, it is considered that the development, as proposed, would militate against the use of the site for agricultural purposes, for which it is zoned. Furthermore, the Board does not consider that it has not been satisfactorily demonstrated, in the documentation submitted with the planning application and the appeal, that the applicants have a genuine need to live in the agricultural zone, in accordance with the zoning objective. It is considered that the development, as proposed, would contravene the agricultural zoning objective, as set out in the Muine Bheag/Royal Oak LAP 2017-2023, as extended, and the proposed development would therefore be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.*

The contravention of the agricultural zoning constituted the main consideration pertaining to the refusal of planning permission. Notwithstanding the above, other technical planning considerations regarding development on the site were deemed acceptable. In particular, matters pertaining to:

- Design and layout
- Disposal of effluent from stables
- Disposal of effluent to private wastewater treatment system for the dwelling
- Access
- Availability of public water supply in the immediate area
- Flood risk management
- Appropriate Assessment.

It is considered:

- that given the location of the site within the development boundary of the settlement;
- the pattern of development in the immediate area;
- the proximity to the town centre;
- the acceptability of the principle of a dwelling on the site on technical grounds by virtue of the planning history on the site;
- the limited extent of the zoning sought amounting to 0.5ha

that a single dwelling unit would be acceptable on the site and in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

### Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that the area of 0.5ha be rezoned from agriculture to new residential to accommodate a single dwelling unit.

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-7	National Environmental Health Service	<p>NEHS observations made under the remit of Healthy Ireland and relevant health supporting policies, strategies and plans including the latest national Climate Action Plan 2025:</p> <p><b>Vision and Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommends that <b>some reference</b> is made in the overall vision for the draft plan in Section A.3.1 to the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to help better shape the meaning of “sustainable communities” and refers to a goal of a “healthy place” that supports physical, mental and social well-being for all of all ages.</li> <li>Notes that improved health and wellbeing is included for Urban Regeneration (Section A.3.8.3). Recommends in this regard that “Healthy Placemaking” is considered as a stand-alone objective in Section A.3.0, which would align closer to the Healthy Ireland framework where the vision of a Healthy Ireland is <i>“where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone’s responsibility”</i>.</li> <li>With regard to Strategic Objective 8 in Section A.3.0, recommends utilisation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 -2030 in the context of developing a resilient town i.e. assessment of climate risk including the risks posed for the town from severe weather events and how the town will adapt to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond and recover from such events</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Travel and Transportation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommends that greater emphasis is placed on assessing other sources of influence to achieve the uptake of active travel and public transport options. Issues such as provision of adequate and secure bike parking facilities, building community capacity through workshops for example in bike maintenance and puncture management, provision of bike libraries etc. are the types of issues that should be explored in trying to deliver more sustainable travel for the town.</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate Action, Environment and Heritage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommends that a wider view be taken with regard to reducing green-house gas emissions that views green procurement (of construction materials for example) as a part of the solution and looking at ways to capture carbon in the biosphere (some plants will sequester carbon better than others for example).</li> <li>Recommends a wider Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) is conducted for Muine Bheag to assess risks associated with a range of extreme weather events and to assess risks associated with the more gradual changes expected in a warmer, wetter/drier Co. Carlow in the decades to come.</li> </ul>



### Opinion of the Chief Executive

**Vision and Context:** it is noted that reference to the SDGs in the vision for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak is requested. The proposed variation, however, is to be read in tandem with the Carlow County Development Plan which provides the overarching policies and objectives for the County. In this regard:

- SDG P1 states that *it is the policy of the Council to contribute, as practicable via the Plan, towards achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030, Agenda for Sustainable Development.*
- Section 1.2.3 addresses health and wellbeing in the built environment and contains the following policy provisions: *Promote a healthy County by improving physical and social environments to create vibrant, accessible, healthy and sustainable places to live, work and relax.(Ref: HW.P1); Promote compact urban form, which is appropriate to context, in the interests of efficient use of resources and optimising the opportunities to walk and cycle, and the feasibility of public transport. (Ref: HW.P2):*  
*Support and promote the development of healthy and attractive places by ensuring:*
  - *Adherence to high quality urban design and placemaking principles which are integrated into the layout and design of new developments.*
  - *Development proposals prioritise the need for people to be physically active and promote walking and cycling in the design of streets and public spaces.*
  - *New schools and workplaces are linked to walking and cycling networks.*
  - *The provision of open space considers different types of recreation and amenity uses that are connected through safe and secure walking and cycling routes.*
  - *Developments are planned for on a multi-functional basis to include ecosystem services, climate change adaptation measures, green infrastructure, and key landscape features in their design. (Ref: HW.P3)*

Accordingly, provisions pertaining to the SDGs and healthy place making are adequately provided for within the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

With reference to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 -2030, this land use plan seeks to mitigate and adapt to climate change and has been subject to a strategic flood risk assessment to ensure development is appropriately located to minimise flood risk to vulnerable landuses.

### Sustainable Travel and Transportation:

The recommendation to place greater emphasis on assessing other sources of influence to achieve the uptake of active travel and public transport options is noted. This recommendation will be referred to the Active Travel Team for consideration. The proposed variation and associated Local Transport Plan seek to plan for a more sustainable and accessible town supporting active travel principles, softer measures including capacity building etc are matters for consideration by the active travel team and the community section.

### Climate Action, Environment and Heritage:

The recommendations regarding green procurement and the application of a Climate Change Risk Assessment while relevant to the functions of the local authority are not directly relevant to a spatial land use plan. The issues raised however, will be referred to the relevant personnel for consideration at a broader level within the local authority.



### Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change

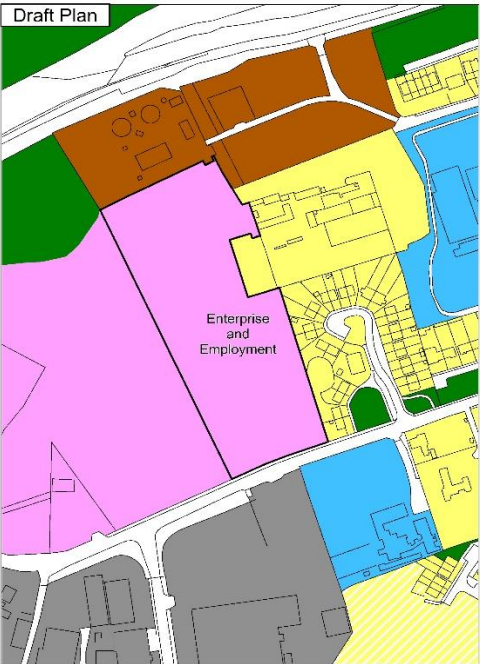
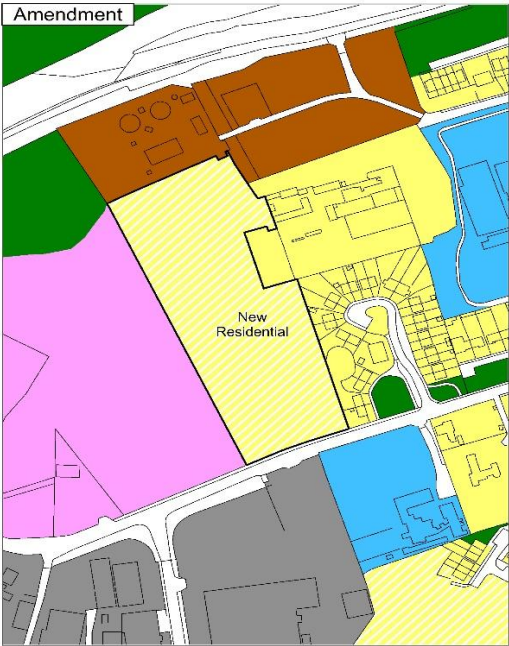


No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-8	<b>Department of Education and Youth</b>	<p>The DEY makes the following observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using Census 2022 average per household figure of 2.77 for County Carlow, the development of 510 residential units could generate a population growth that exceeds 1,400 over the plan period, and the NPF review has the potential to allocate a further projected population increase. A population growth of 1400 and beyond would impact on further school place provision.</li> <li>At primary level there is an indication of potential increased requirement for school places which could be met by the expansion of existing facilities, if required.</li> <li>If the proposed 510 units are delivered and the persons per household goes above 2.77, this will put pressure on existing primary school facilities. It is advised that the Council keep under review the population growth arising from these units.</li> <li>The identification of several park and stride locations near schools is welcomed by the DEY.</li> <li>The DEY supports the development of sustainable travel links between schools and residential areas and notes the provisions of policies A7.P5 and Objective A9.O1 regarding improved accessibility and walking and cycling infrastructure and traffic calming measures in the vicinity of schools.</li> <li>The DEY notes and welcomes policy A9. P5 on liaison with the Council to assist in the delivery of future educational requirements in the town.</li> <li>The DEY request that the two school sites at St. Bridget Monastery N.S and Queen of the Universe N.S are rezoned from 'Town Centre' to 'Community/Education'.</li> <li>The DEY note policy A9.P7 to encourage the multi-use of education buildings and facilities in the town, where it does not conflict with the delivery of education services and in accordance with DE Guidelines on the use of School Buildings outside of School Hours (2017).</li> <li>The DEY anticipates that Special Education Needs (SEN) provision at primary and post primary level will be required in the future throughout the country, and may result in schools requiring additional accommodation or space.</li> <li>The DEY has in recent years seen an increase in SEN school place requirements, and this is kept under constant review. In this regard, the DEY will consult with the Council if and when additional special education needs accommodation or site for future special schools are required within specific locations.</li> <li>The DEY would welcome explicit support within the plan for the provision of school accommodation for children and young people with special education needs.</li> <li>The DEY will engage with the Council on the findings assessments for current and future capacity in terms of unforeseen circumstances such as the Ukrainian crisis, which</li> </ul>

		have the ability to put undue pressure on school place provision and require reassessments of same.
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
<p>The planning authority welcomes the detailed submission from the Department of Education and Youth and support expressed for a number of policies identified therein. The specific request that the two school sites at St. Bridget Monastery N.S and Queen of the Universe N.S are rezoned from 'Town Centre' to 'Community/Education' is acceptable to the planning authority and will seek to ensure the sites future use for educational/community use, in locations proximate to the communities serviced and supports the investment in active travel infrastructure to secure safer routes to school.</p> <p>The anticipated demand for Special Education Needs (SEN) provision at primary and post primary level is acknowledged which may result in schools requiring additional accommodation or space. It is noted that the department would welcome explicit support within the plan for the provision of school accommodation for children and young people with special education needs. As the proposed variation is to be read in tandem with the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 relevant policies contained therein remain applicable to development within Muine Bheag/Royal Oak including the following:</p> <p><i>Support and facilitate, as appropriate, the development and expansion of education facilities and services in the County, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <i>the development of ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) units throughout the County to ensure the needs of all students are met: and</i></li><li>- <i>the protection of existing school sites for education use and where appropriate the land buffers adjoining them. (Ref: EF. P2)</i></li></ul> <p><i>Encourage the mainstream education provision of people with special needs, including the development, as appropriate, of necessary supporting facilities. (Ref: EF. P6)</i></p>		
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>		
Rezone St. Bridget Monastery N.S and Queen of the Universe N.S from 'Town Centre' to 'Community/Education'.		

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-9	Hughes Planning on behalf of Firtree Developments Ltd.	<p>The submission relates to a parcel of land comprising c. 12.2ha located to the north of the Royal Oak Road and bound to the east by the Chestnut Court housing estate, an individual dwelling and O'Neill Engineering.</p> <p>It is noted that land is currently in a state of dereliction which began following the closure of the Fair Oak Foods Factory Complex located on site. The meat factory ceased operations in the late 1990s, has been demolished and remnants of the structure are present on site.</p> <p>The submission wishes to inform the Council of the development potential of the land, and the interest and willingness of the landowner to provide a mixed-use development within the timeframe of the current County Development Plan:</p> <div></div> <p>The submission also requests the Council to consider rezoning part of the land from 'Enterprise and Employment' to 'New Residential':</p> <div></div> <p>In regard to the foregoing, the submission refers to (inter alia):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Supporting provisions in the NPF First Revision (2025) in regard to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- NPO 7 on compact and sequential growth.</li><li>- ESRI projections.</li><li>- Infrastructure capacity and readiness.</li></ul></li></ul>

		<div><div>-</div><div>National Strategic Outcomes for compact growth, sustainable mobility and access to quality services.</div><div><div>▪</div><div>The Minister’s circular letter of May 2025 regarding the need to prepare for housing growth.</div></div><div><div>▪</div><div>The supporting provisions in the RSES that give support to prioritising housing and employment development in serviced areas, facilitating economic integration between Carlow town and Muine Bheag, and to building more homes (RPO 8, RPO14 and RPO 29).</div></div><div><div>▪</div><div>The policies and objectives of the CDP as applying to the town, in terms of promoting consolidation and growth, social and economic development, housing, improved accessibility, public realm infrastructure etc.</div></div></div>
--	--	--

Proposed Variation	Rezoning Request
<div><div>Draft Plan</div></div>	<div><div>Amendment</div></div>

Opinion of the Chief Executive
<div>Further to assessment of the proposed rezoning request, the planning authority is satisfied that:</div> <div><div>-</div><div>The site is sequentially appropriate for residential development, immediately adjoining existing established residential uses, and is located within the built urban footprint of Muine Bheag / Royal Oak.</div></div> <div><div>-</div><div>The area is serviced by a public watermain and the public sewer traverses the site. The recently published capacity register for Carlow (August 2025) confirms availability of water supply and spare capacity in the wastewater treatment plant. Any plans for redevelopment would require consideration of the sewer traversing the site within any proposed layout or diversion subject to Uisce Eireann consent as appropriate.</div></div> <div><div>-</div><div>Surface water disposal will be required in accordance with the policies and provisions as contained in the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and Section A.8.3 Surface Water Management and SuDs as contained in the Proposed District Plan.</div></div> <div><div>-</div><div>Part of the site immediately adjoining the WWTP is located within Flood Zone B, with a greater proportion of the site impacted when applying climate change identified in red hereunder.</div></div>



- Given the nature of the proposed residential use comprising a vulnerable land use it is recommended that a 20m set back be maintained along the boundary with the WWTP and that this area of land be zoned open space and amenity.
- The site also immediately adjoins the wastewater treatment plant. Adequate separation distances from the treatment plant shall be maintained in order to protect the residential amenities of future occupants of the proposed dwellings, which may require the provision of increased open space within the scheme over current development management standards to achieve high quality layout.
- The site fronts the regional road with available public footpaths and lighting.
- The site is visually prominent on an incline to the town centre and will require a high quality layout and design to enhance the approach to the town.


Having regard to the increased housing demand / growth requirements identified in the Revised National Planning Framework and the uplift provided to Carlow County Council (up to 50% on the baseline figure), it is considered reasonable to provide additional provision to support increased housing delivery and to optimise the ability to deliver housing within Muine Bheag / Royal Oak. Furthermore, it is the view of the planning authority that the environmental carrying capacity of Muine Bheag / Royal Oak can accommodate the additional residential units, the site is appropriately located and subject to a detailed design statement and confirmation of feasibility with Uisce Eireann, the zoning of the site for residential development would be acceptable and in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

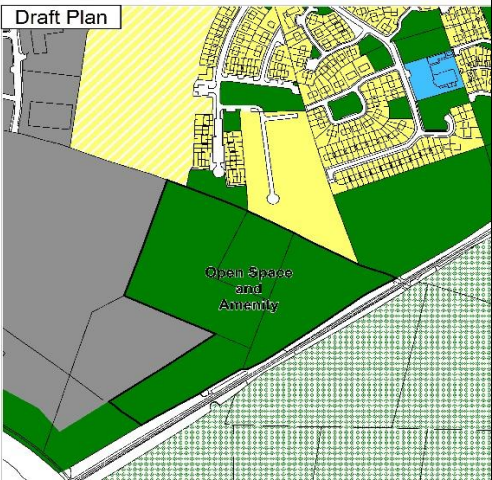
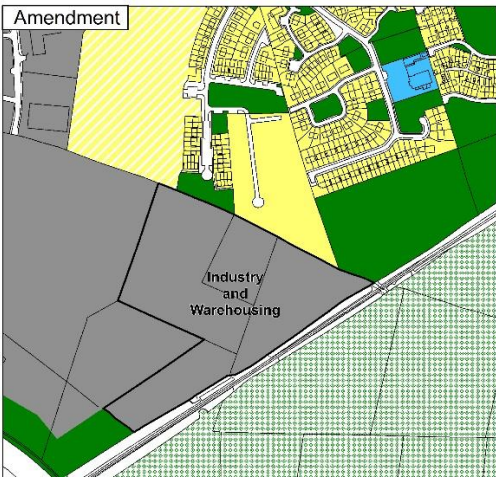

#### Chief Executive's Recommendation

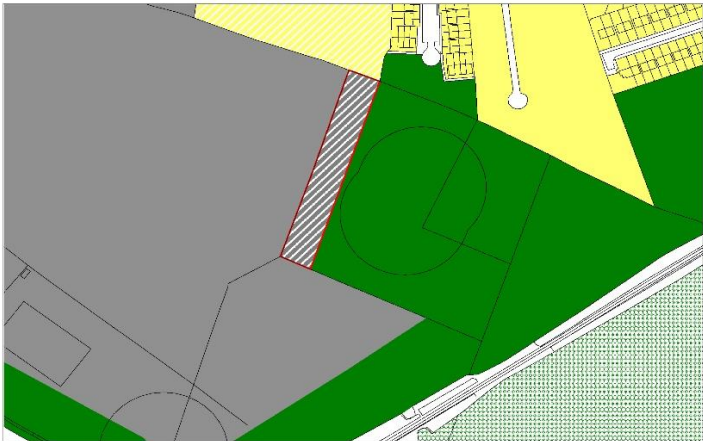
Rezone 2.1ha from enterprise and employment to new residential and 0.22ha to open space and amenity and subject the redevelopment of the site to a specific zoning objective.


Any proposed development shall be subject to a detailed design statement in accordance with the provisions of Section 12.10 Design Statements of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028, shall provide for an appropriate mix of units (including sizes and types) and shall be of a high quality design and layout thereby achieving good quality urban design and placemaking.



No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-10	<b>Hughes Planning on behalf of Firtree Developments Ltd.</b>	<p>The submission relates to a parcel of land comprising c. 10ha to the south, east/southeast of and adjoining the existing Bagenalstown Industrial Park and Muine Bheag Business Park, and north of the River Barrow and railway line. It is noted that the land also includes a community playing field which is accessed from the housing estate.</p> <p>The submission requests the Council to consider rezoning the land from 'Open Space and Amenity' to 'Industry and Warehousing':</p>  <p>In regard to the foregoing, the submission refers to (inter alia):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Interest expressed for industrial and manufacturing units in the town.</li> <li>▪ Concentration of new units at existing industrial estate is in accordance with draft plan.</li> <li>▪ Existing infrastructure is more appropriate for the continuation of the industrial zone and would be a logical sequence of additional industrial units.</li> <li>▪ Access to the land as open and amenity space would be limited to a small number of housing access roads.</li> <li>▪ Supporting provisions in the NPF First Revision (2025) in regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NPO 6 and 11 on regeneration of towns, accommodation of increased employment activity, and a presumption in favour of development that can encourage more people and generate more activity in towns.</li> <li>- Infrastructure capacity and readiness.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ RPO 14 in the RSES as seeking to facilitate economic integration between urban centres in the County including Muine Bheag.</li> <li>▪ The policies and objectives of the CDP as applying to the town, in terms of promoting consolidation and growth, social and economic development, enterprise and employment, , improved accessibility, public realm infrastructure etc. (including SO4, CS P7, CS. P9, CM. P1, ED. P1 and P2, MB. O3, MB. O5 to MB. O9 and MB.O11).</li> </ul>

Proposed Variation	Rezoning Request
	
<div>Opinion of the Chief Executive</div> <p>The area subject to the rezoning request contains a number of constraints to the rezoning of the site. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(iii) The existence of an established amenity use on a part of the site by Kilree Celtic FC,</li><li>(iv) Significant archaeological designations within the area subject to the rezoning request.</li></ul> <div></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(v) The existence of a roads objective to develop a new route linking the town centre at Kilree Bridge to existing and proposed development on the western side of the town (Ref: Objective A7.O5). Rezoning of lands along this route would prejudice the potential future delivery of a long-standing roads objective.</li></ul> <p>Having regard to the above constraints, it is considered that an area of 0.58ha can be considered for industry and warehousing without significantly compromising the existing established amenity use, archaeological constraints and potential future delivery of the roads objective.</p>	


Chief Executive's Recommendation	
Rezone 0.58ha from Open Space and Amenity to Industry and Warehousing. (hatched in grey)	

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-11	Hughes Planning on behalf of Firtree Developments Ltd.	<p>The submission relates to a parcel of land comprising c. 0.562ha located to the west of the Royal Oak Road and adjoining 4 no. dwellings to the north, forming part of permission reg. ref. 05/225 for 10 no. houses, and later permission reg. ref. 13/246 including extension of duration under reg. ref. 19/170.</p> <p>The submission requests the Council to consider carrying out an Infrastructure Assessment of the land to provide a much-needed wastewater connection in collaboration with Uisce Éireann.</p>  <p>In regard to the foregoing, the submission refers to (inter alia):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supporting provisions in the NPF First Revision (2025) in regard to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NPO 7 on compact and sequential growth.</li><li>ESRI projections.</li><li>Infrastructure capacity and readiness.</li><li>National Strategic Outcomes for compact growth, sustainable mobility and access to quality services.</li></ul></li></ul>

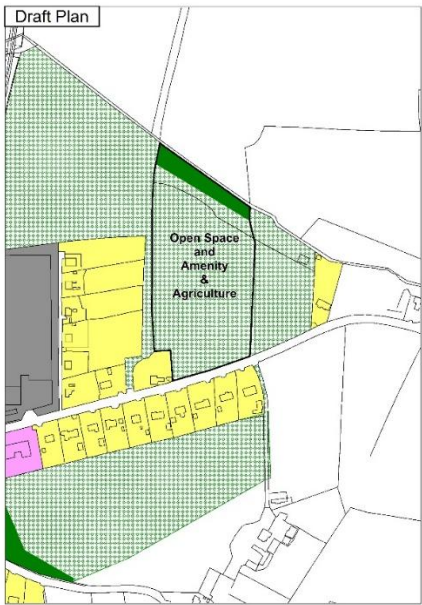
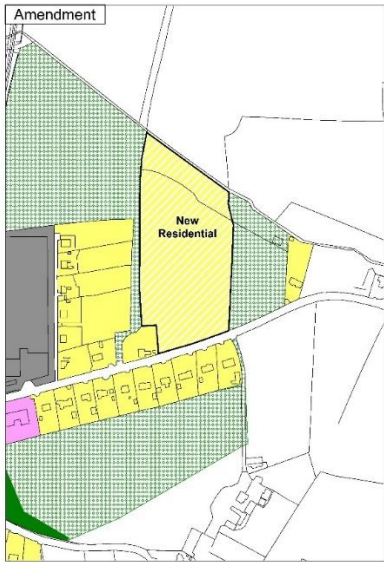


		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The Minister’s circular letter of May 2025 regarding the need to prepare for housing growth.</li><li>▪ The supporting provisions in the RSES that give support to prioritising housing and employment development in serviced areas, facilitating economic integration between Carlow town and Muine Bheag, and to building more homes (RPO 8, RPO14 and RPO 29).</li><li>▪ The policies and objectives of the CDP as applying to the town, in terms of promoting consolidation and growth, social and economic development, housing, improved accessibility, public realm infrastructure etc.</li></ul>
--	--	--

<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>
<p>The site is currently zoned existing residential / infill and where it is a specific policy of the proposed variation to <i>Encourage and support the completion of the unfinished housing estate at Royal Oak Close, subject to availability of infrastructural services and compliance with proper planning and environmental criteria (Policy: A4. P4)</i></p> <p>The submission from Uisce Éireann notes that they are currently using tankers to manage the wastewater load in Royal Oak. Reference however is made to planning permission granted in 2025 for new WWPS on the western side of the river and works are expected to be completed in Q4 2027. The responsibility rests with the developer to engage with Uisce Eireann and obtain relevant consents as appropriate.</p>
<b>Chief Executive’s Recommendation</b>
No change.

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-12	George Kehoe, James Kehoe, Jimmy Kehoe, Mary Kehoe, and Patrick Kehoe.	<p>The submission relates to a parcel of land at Kilcarrig, previously zoned residential, located within 500m of the railway station and local schools, within 1km of the town centre, and previous subject of permission reg. ref. 05/750 for a 58-bed nursing home, 54 sheltered housing units, and 14 private houses.</p> <p>The submission requests that the Council rezone the land from ‘Agriculture’ to ‘New Residential’, as the site represents a strategic opportunity to provide much-needed housing and should remain part of the town’s residential land bank.</p> <div></div> <p>In regard to the foregoing, the submission refers to (inter alia):</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Supporting provisions in the NPF First Revision (2025) in regard to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- NPO 7 on compact and sequential growth.</li><li>- ESRI projections.</li><li>- Infrastructure capacity and readiness.</li><li>- National Strategic Outcomes for compact growth, sustainable mobility and access to quality services.</li></ul></li><li>▪ The Minister’s circular letter of May 2025 regarding the need to prepare for housing growth.</li><li>▪ The supporting provisions in the RSES that give support to prioritising housing and employment development in serviced areas, facilitating economic integration between Carlow town and Muine Bheag, and to building more homes (RPO 8, RPO14 and RPO 29).</li><li>▪ The policies and objectives of the CDP as applying to the town, in terms of promoting consolidation and growth, social and economic development, housing, improved accessibility, public realm infrastructure etc.</li></ul>
--	--

Proposed Variation	Rezoning Request
	

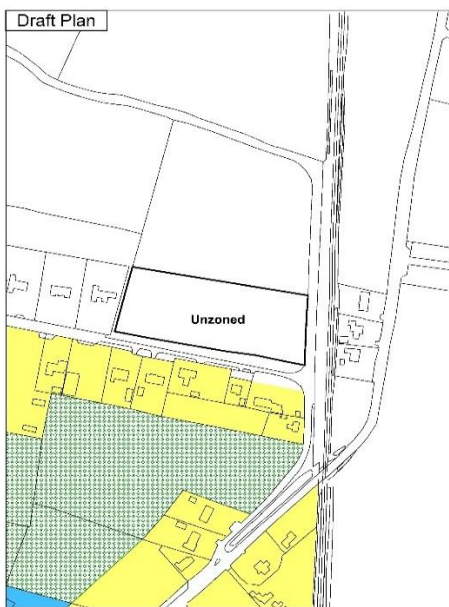
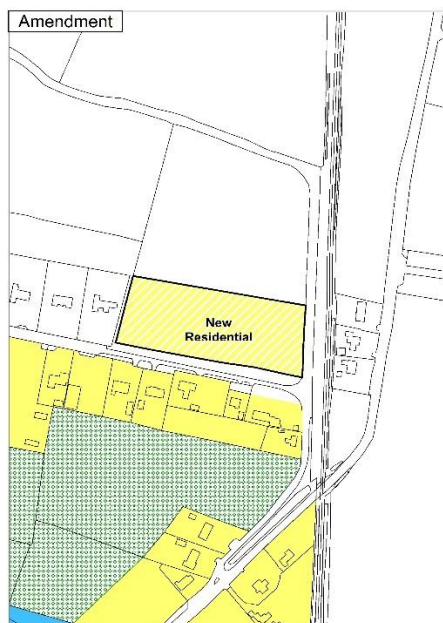
Opinion of the Chief Executive
<p>The site is located on the eastern outskirts of Muine Bheag with a proportion of the site proposed as open scape and amenity due to the presence of flood risk zones associated with the Dunleckny Stream.</p> <p>The content of the submission is noted, and the Planning Authority acknowledges the previous residential zoning of the majority of the site which reflected the existence of an existing permission, i.e. file reference 05/750 ABP 220684, and extension of duration 12/168 (58 bed nursing home and 54 sheltered housing units). The planning history outlines the substantial contributions and legal agreements required at that time to facilitate the future development of the site regarding public water, wastewater, contribution to the provision of a pedestrian bridge, amenities etc.</p> <p>Regarding the current servicing of the site the following is noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- there is a water main located within the public road to the front of the site.</li><li>- there is no wastewater network in proximity to the site. The submission references a current application before Carlow County Council, PI 25/60152 and in the event that permission is granted and constructed would connect the necessary infrastructure on the east side of the rail</li></ul>

tracks and therefore would provide the subject lands with the necessary infrastructure needed to provide residential development. While it is accepted that a current application seeks the extension of wastewater infrastructure comprising developer provided infrastructure, with a required network extension of 770m including consents with third parties, it cannot be determined at this stage that any future development of the site can be accommodated by the developer provided infrastructure which is subject to third party agreements. An alternative proposal to service the site would require a rail crossing, the cost of which would be cost prohibitive.

- Connectivity to the town centre is also substandard by virtue of the constraints presented by Kilcarrig Bridge and the absence of footpaths / cycle lanes to the town centre and the local road which is limited in width and alignment. There are currently no facilities / or plans in place to connect this area of Muine Bheag to the town centre and any development would be premature pending delivery of such infrastructure. In the absence of any funding stream it is unlikely that the necessary active travel infrastructure would be available within the remaining period of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

#### Chief Executive's Recommendation

National Policy Objective no. 101 of the National Planning Framework requires planning authorities to apply a standardised, tiered approach to zoning to differentiate between (i) zoned land that is serviced and (ii) zoned land that is serviceable within the life of the plan. It is evident that the lands are not currently serviceable and unlikely to be serviced within the remaining period of the County Development Plan 2022-2028. The future development potential of the site is therefore more likely in the medium-long term i.e. subsequent development plan period and accordingly, it is recommended that the lands which may offer the potential to meet future development needs of the town subject to delivery of appropriate infrastructure in advance or in tandem with residential development be identified as a "Long Term Strategic and Sustainable Development Site", subject to review in the forthcoming County Development Plan Review and subject to environmental carrying capacity considerations.

No.	Name	Issues Raised	
CLW-C162-13	Kieran McQuillan	<p>Requests the rezoning of lands proposed for agriculture to new residential. In support of the proposed zoning the following is stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Conveniently located at Dunleckney and adjacent to existing residential dwellings</li><li>- 10min walk from St. Mary's NS and McGrath Park and 20min walk to the town centre.</li><li>- Wastewater constraints in Muine Bheag have been addressed.</li><li>- Confirmation received from UE that the proposed development can be connected to the existing water and wastewater network.</li><li>- Connection to the water and wastewater network could facilitate connection by existing ribbon development in the green road area, helping de-risk potential contamination of the public water source located in McGrath Park.</li></ul>	
Proposed Variation		Rezoning Request	
			
Opinion of the Chief Executive			
<p>The site which is subject to this rezoning request is located to the north and outside the development boundary for Muine Bheag / Royal Oak and within a rural area subject to the provisions of the rural housing policy. The proposed rezoning of this peripherally located site outside the development boundary for residential use would be contrary to national, regional, and county level policy, which is focused on ensuring more sustainable compact growth through the provision of housing within strategic and existing built-up areas and the development of land in a sequential manner, rather than more sprawl of urban development. National Policy Objectives 9 in the NPF First Revision refers, along with Regional Policy Objective 14 in the RSES for the Southern Region, and Objective CS. 09 in the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p> <p>Rezoning of the site for residential purposes would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.</p>			
Chief Executive's Recommendation			
No change			

No.	Name	Issues Raised
<b>CLW-C162-14</b>	<b>Southern Regional Assembly</b>	<p>The submission is intended to primarily assist and support the Council in ensuring the principles set out in the Proposed Variation align with the National Planning Framework, the RSES and the Carlow County Development Plan. The Assembly provides a number of observations under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and Legislative Context for Observations of the SRA</li> <li>• Purpose of the Proposed Variation</li> <li>• Evaluation of the Proposed Variation with the RSES for the Southern Region</li> <li>• Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)</li> <li>• Recommendations</li> <li>• Conclusion</li> </ul> <p>Specific recommendations are provided under the following headings:</p> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen alignment with regional policy by explicitly referencing RPO 35 (30% of growth in urban footprint of settlements) of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) within the Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan under Section A.4.0.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Communities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include reference to RSES RPO 186 in support of Lifelong Learning, and the SRA document, <i>'Towards a Learning Region'</i> in support of promoting education opportunity and skills development – either in text of Section A9.0 or as part of Objective A9.P8.</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate Action, Environment, and Heritage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance policy coherence by referencing the Southern Regional Assembly's <i>'Our Green Region - a Blue Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions Framework for the Southern Region'</i> document within the Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan under Section A.10.0 to support the local application of Blue-Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions strategies.</li> </ul>
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
The content of the SRA submission is noted and in particular inclusion of additional text the housing, sustainable communities and climate action, environment and heritage sections of the proposed variation. These additions seek to support implementation of the RSES and are considered reasonable.		
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>		
Include additional text in <b>Green:</b>		
<b>Housing:</b> Include additional text in green in <b>Section A.4.6 Delivering Compact Growth</b>		



As required by Objective 9 in the NPF First Revision **and RPO 35 of RSES** at least 30% of all new housing units must be delivered within the existing urban footprint of Muine Bheag/Royal Oak. As part of the preparation of this Plan, an analysis was carried out of lands within the built footprint including appropriate brownfield and infill lands in the town with potential capacity to delivery new housing.

**Sustainable Communities: extract Education, Training and Childcare – Policies**

Include additional text in green in **Policy A9.P8:** *It is the policy of the Council to promote and support initiatives with relevant stakeholders to expand education and training that supports lifelong learning and meets the wide range of business skills located in Muine Bheag/Royal Oak **and to support the development of the Southern Region as a Learning Region in support of RPO 186 and RPO 190 in partnership with the Regional Assembly, Local Authorities and other agencies as appropriate.***

**Climate Action, Environment, and Heritage**

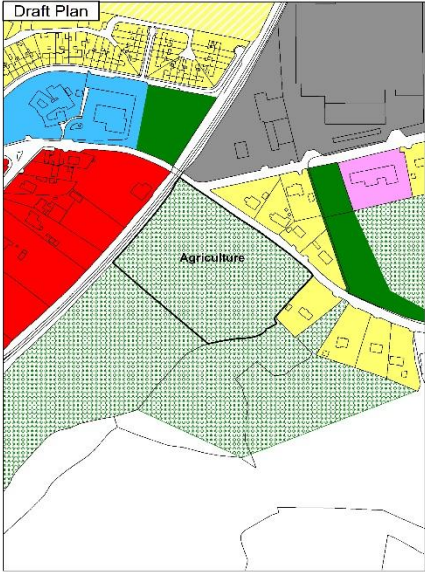
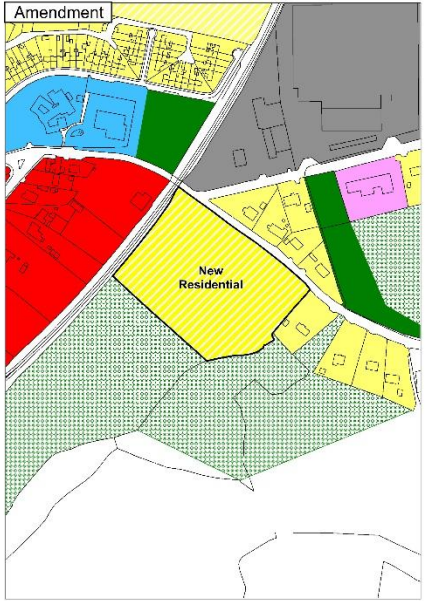
Include additional text in green in **Section A10.4** *The importance of nature-based solutions and green and blue infrastructure is recognised at a regional level through a range of strategies and policies and more recently with the Southern Regional Assembly's publication 'Our Green Region – a Blue Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions Framework for the Southern Region'. This Framework provides a resource to guide the implementation of blue and green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to support the implementation of a network of nature-based interventions to solve local challenges in our settlements and the landscapes that they link to.*

No.	Name	Issues Raised	
CLW-C162-15	NTA	<p>The NTA is broadly supportive of the suite of Policies and Objectives set out in the <i>Draft Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan 2025</i> (Draft Plan) related to Sustainable Travel and Transportation. The policies and objectives related to Walking and Cycling, Public Transport, Roads and Parking, in tandem with the proposed Measures arising from the Draft LTP, would provide a good foundation for the growth in sustainable transport use within the town. However, notwithstanding this support in principle, the NTA submits the following comments on specific aspects of Chapter A.7.0.</p> <p>The NTA recommends that <b>Tables 5-1 to 5-4</b> which outline measures in the LTP inclusive should be included within the Draft Plan that will be incorporated into the CDP, as this would provide a more robust foundation to support their delivery.</p> <p>Reference is made to <b>Policy A7.P6</b> <i>'Ensure where viable that all development where appropriate within Muine Bheag/Royal Oak provides for connectivity (pedestrian, cyclist and vehicular) to adjacent lands in accordance with the National Transport Authority's Permeability Best Practice Guide (2015) and any subsequent update to this Guide.'</i> While the NTA is supportive of a policy that seeks to improve connectivity between adjacent sites for active travel, the inclusion of vehicular traffic within this Policy it is submitted does not accord with the provisions of the NTA's <i>Permeability Best Practice Guide</i>. This guidance proposes measures intended to provide a competitive advantage to active modes for local trips, by developing walking and cycling routes that are more direct than the routes available for the private car. It is therefore stated that the inclusion of vehicular traffic in draft Policy A7.P6 would therefore not accord with the guidance, and the NTA recommends that the Policy should be revised to remove the reference to vehicular traffic and provide for improved walking and cycling connectivity only.</p> <p>It is recommended that <b>Section A.7.4</b> be amended to clarify that the Draft Plan and LTP were not developed in consultation with the NTA.</p> <p>It is recommended that <b>Section A.7.4.4</b> Public Transport Strategy include an additional policy or objective regarding the NTAs Connecting Ireland and Local Link Programmes, stating the Councils support for these programmes and its intention to engage with the NTA and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of these programmes.</p>	
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>			
<p>The submission outlines a number of text changes primarily to support the implementation of sustainable travel throughout Muine Bheag / Royal Oak. The comments on Policy A7.P6 are noted. The reference to pedestrian, cyclist and vehicular connectivity reflects the Council's intention to ensure access to development sites by all modes. While the NTA's Permeability Guide focuses on prioritising active travel, it is important to recognise that in a rural county like Carlow, vehicular access remains essential. Many areas have limited public transport coverage and dispersed settlement patterns, so ensuring access for all modes is a practical and inclusive approach.</p>			

Chief Executive’s Recommendation	
<p><b>Include New text and tables in green Table 7.2-7.5 Implementation of Options and Timeframes at the end of Section A7.4.2 LTP Strategy Options</b> Refer response to Recommendation No. 2 – Integration of Transport and Landuse Planning Submission ref: CLW-C162-4</p> <p><b>Policy A7.P6</b> - no change</p> <p><b>Amend Section A.7.4 Local Transport Plan to delete text in red and include text in green:</b> As part of the preparation of this District Town Plan a Local Transport Plan (LTP) has been undertaken on behalf of the Council by Aecom with engagement with the NTA during the PTAL and ATOS assessments. <del>the in conjunction with the National Transport Authority (NTA).</del> The LTP, included as Appendix.</p> <p><b>Include additional text in green in Section A.7.4.4 Public Transport Strategy – Objective A7.O2</b></p> <p>Support and facilitate the delivery of the preferred public transport improvements identified in the Local Transport Plan (LTP) to make public transport travel in Muine Bheag/Royal Oak a more accessible, convenient, attractive, and viable transport option and to support the NTAs Connecting Ireland and Local Link Programmes and to engage with the NTA and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of these programmes.</p>	



No.	Name	Issues Raised
<b>CLW-C162-16</b>	<b>Peter Bolger</b>	<p>Requests that the lands identified on the map be reinstated from agriculture as proposed to new residential as previously provided in former LAP's for Muine Bheag. In support of the proposed rezoning the following is stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Location in a highly accessible location</li> <li>- Lands are subject to an active planning application for residential development.</li> <li>- Permission previously granted on the site ref. 06/419, ABP PL01.218932.</li> <li>- Development would support core strategy and compact growth principles, consistent with NPF and RSES.</li> <li>- Intention to deliver a developer led extension of the public wastewater infrastructure providing capacity to connect numerous existing residential and commercial properties on the eastern side of Muine Bheag which are reliant on private wastewater treatment systems. Connection to the public infrastructure it is indicated would minimise environmental risks arising from such systems and providing significant environmental gain.</li> <li>- UE has issued a Confirmation of Feasibility confirming both water and wastewater connections are feasible. It is stated that all necessary legal easements and undertakings have been secured over third-party lands.</li> </ul>

Proposed Variation	Rezoning Request
	

#### Opinion of the Chief Executive

The site is located to the south east of Kilcarrig Bridge and is subject to current planning application PI 25/60152 which is subject to a detailed further information request.

The content of the submission is noted, and the Planning Authority acknowledges the previous residential zoning of the site and permission: file reference 06/419 ABP 01.218932, for 40 no. residential units. This permission required provision of a pedestrian bridge over the railway, which

was to be attached to Kilcarrig Bridge). Condition nos. 2 and 3 of the Board's decision required that:

- 2. No development shall commence on site until the planning authority has certified that all necessary agreements are in place, including necessary consents from the rail authority for the pedestrian bridge and service pipes, and no house shall be occupied until the pedestrian bridge linking the proposed development to Bagenalstown is complete. Reason: In the interest of orderly development and residential amenity*
- 3. Details in relation to the design, specification and capacity of the foul water pumping station shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and, on completion, shall be taken in charge by the planning authority prior to the occupation of any of the units. Reason: In the interest of orderly development and public health.*

Regarding the current servicing of the site the following is noted:

- there is a water main located within the public road to the front of the site.
- there is no wastewater network in proximity to the site. PI 25/60152, Uisce Eireann comments on foot of the application note that:
  - *Confirmation of Feasibility CDS25002412 has been issued to the applicant advising that (water/ wastewater) connections are feasible.*
  - *In order to complete the proposed connection, the network will have to be extended by approximately 770 metres from Philip Street to the development site. The developer will be required to fund the extension works. The fee will be calculated at a connection application stage.*
  - *The proposed development connects via private land/s. Please be advised that at connection application stage you have to provide evidence of consent from the Third-Party Landowner/s.*
  - *Gravity connection may not be achievable and a suitably sized pumping station may be required to be installed on your site.*
  - *Storm water from the Development should be discharged into the storm water sewer, no storm water is allowed in wastewater network.*


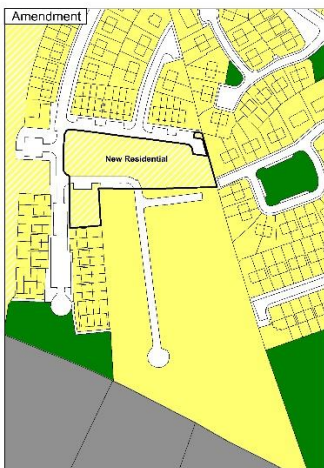
Notwithstanding the above, a response to the further information is awaited to confirm the applicant's agreement to fund the extension works and proof of necessary consents from landowners through which the proposed network extension takes place, together with other engineering matters to ensure viability of the proposed network extension.

- Connectivity to the town centre is also substandard by virtue of the constraints presented by Kilcarrig Bridge and the absence of footpaths / cycle lanes to the town centre and the local road which is limited in width and alignment. There are currently no facilities / or plans in place to connect this area of Muine Bheag to the town centre and any development would be premature pending delivery of such infrastructure. In the absence of any funding stream, it is unlikely that the necessary active travel infrastructure would be available within the remaining period of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

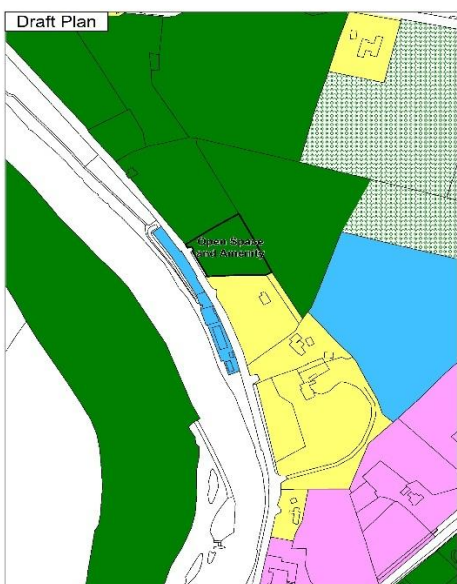
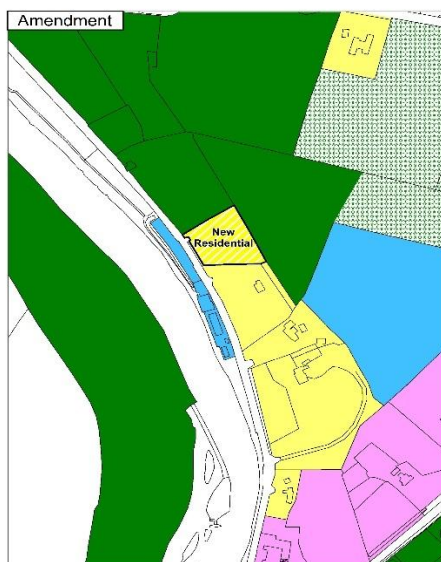
### Chief Executive's Recommendation

National Policy Objective no. 101 of the National Planning Framework requires planning authorities to apply a standardised, tiered approach to zoning to differentiate between (i) zoned land that is serviced and (ii) zoned land that is serviceable within the life of the plan. It is evident that the lands are not currently serviceable and unlikely to be serviced within the remaining period of the County Development Plan 2022-2028. The future development potential of the site is therefore more likely

in the medium-long term i.e. subsequent development plan period and accordingly, it is recommended that the lands which may offer the potential to meet future development needs of the town subject to delivery of appropriate infrastructure in advance or in tandem with residential development be identified as a “Long Term Strategic and Sustainable Development Site”, subject to review in the forthcoming County Development Plan Review and subject to environmental carrying capacity considerations.

No.	Name	Issues Raised	
CLW-C162-17	Peter Bolger on behalf of MESD Ventures Limited	Requests that an area of land measuring 545sqm be rezoned from open space and amenity to its previous residential zoning. Reference is made to a previous expired permission (Ref 18/381) which it is stated established the principle of development on this site. It is submitted that the retention as open space undermines the development potential of the site and creates design inefficiencies in the preparation of a revised housing scheme. It is further stated that a revised planning application is in preparation broadly similar in layout and design to the previously approved scheme utilising existing in-situ road and service infrastructure. Indicates that the applicant will comply with requirements regarding the provision of public open space in the proposed development and will be optimised through the design process.	
Proposed Variation		Rezoning Request	
			
Opinion of the Chief Executive			
The majority of land referenced in this submission has been identified as an area of public open space pursuant to permission 01/667 ABP: 01.130072 and more recently expired permission reference 18/381. The area is in use as an area of public open space associated with the development constructed pursuant to permission 01/667 ABP: 01.130072. Having regard to the history of the site, the established open space use of the site it is considered that the proposed rezoning would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. The location of existing infrastructure within the area referenced does not prejudice the future delivery of residential units on the remainder of the landholding.			
Chief Executive's Recommendation			
No change.			

No.	Name	Issues Raised	
<b>CLW-C162-18</b>	<b>Peter Bolger on behalf of Ms. Gillian Rea</b>	<p>Requests that an area of land measuring 0.4ha be rezoned from open space and amenity to new residential to facilitate construction of a single dwelling. In support of the proposal the following is stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Location within defined urban boundary forming a logical extension to existing residential envelope.</li> <li>- Accessible by local road network, footpath and public water main.</li> <li>- Site does not contribute to open space / green infrastructure network. Not publicly accessible, fenced, enclosed and in private ownership.</li> <li>- Not visually prominent or of ecological value.</li> </ul> <p>Considers that the rezoning of the site for a single dwelling would not result in over development, nor materially reduce the green infrastructure network of the town and would represent a sustainable infill use.</p>	

Proposed Variation	Rezoning Request
	

Opinion of the Chief Executive
<p>The site (c. 0.39 hectares) is located at the northern end of the town, comprising land with sloping and elevated frontage, and an existing access onto the R705 (Leighlinbridge Road) to the west across from Bagenalstown Swimming Pool, and adjoining the site of a vacant residential property to the north, an existing residential property to the south, and agricultural land to the east (rear). An open space and amenity zoning is currently proposed for the site, with lands to the south comprising a row of 3 no. existing residential properties zoned existing/infill residential.</p> <p>The details outlined in the submission are noted by the Planning Authority. Regarding the location, character, use and current proposed zoning of the site, it is noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The site is steeply sloping parcel of land that is not in use, nor does it function, as a publicly accessible area of open space.</li> <li>- In terms of the existing patten of development in the neighbouring area, the site is located on the end of a row of 3 no. existing residential properties to the south and adjoins a vacant residential property to the north comprising a single storey house with gable end adjoining the public road.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The vacant residential property to the north of the site was the subject of a planning permission under reg. ref. 18/255 for a new dwelling, incorporating the reuse of the existing single storey house.</li><li>- The site is served by an existing access onto the R724.</li><li>- There is a public watermain proximate to the site at the other side of the R724.</li><li>- There is a public stormwater sewer to the front roadside boundary of the site.</li><li>- The site is within the development boundary of the settlement and proximate to the town centre, including associated services and amenities.</li></ul> <p>In view of the foregoing, including the limited extent of the proposed zoning (0.39 hectares), it is considered that the rezoning of the site from open space and amenity to new residential to facilitate a single dwelling unit would be acceptable and in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.</p>	
<b>Chief Executive’s Recommendation</b>	
It is recommended that the area of 0.39ha be rezoned from open space and amenity to new residential to accommodate a single dwelling unit.	



No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-19	<b>Development Applications Unit</b> <b>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</b>	<p>The department have recommended a number of text changes to the proposed variation as follows:</p> <p><b>Architectural Heritage (Table 5.2 Strategic Employment Land – Site 3 Holloden House)</b></p> <p>The land at this location, in the townland of Clorusk Lower, are zoned Enterprise and Employment and include the existing established Royal Oak Distillery on the historic grounds of Holloden House (a Protected Structure), with access from the L71095 local road just north of Royal Oak neighbouring centre. It is envisaged that this land use zoning, which extends to c.15.27 hectares, will facilitate potential future expansion of the distillery in a manner that complements existing whiskey manufacturing and associated tourism uses and <del>is sympathetic to the historic character and setting of Holloden House.</del> in accordance with Protected Structure Policies PS.P2 –PS.P13, Country Houses, Demesnes &amp; Gardens Policies CH.P1-CH P.5, and Country Houses, Demesnes &amp; Gardens Objective CH.O1 outlined in Chapter 10 Natural and Built Heritage and associated Development Management Standards in Chapter 16 of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p> <p><b>Architectural Heritage (Table 5.2 Strategic Employment Land – Site 4 Minch Norton and Co Malt House and CW725 The Cottage)</b></p> <p>In view of location the land proximate to the River Barrow and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), development proposals will be required to carefully consider potential flood risk impacts and potential impacts on the SAC, through Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening/Natura Impact Statement (NIS) as appropriate. <del>The location of Protected Structures on the land as noted will also require detailed consideration of potential impacts on the character and setting of built heritage.</del></p> <p>This location contains two protected structures of very different typologies, one being a substantial historic industrial complex while the other is a finely detailed single historic cottage within a landscaped setting. Each protected structure will require an individualised development response while also taking into consideration their proximity to each other and the adjoining Glebe House which is also a protected structure. Development proposals shall be carried out in accordance with Protected Structure Policies PS.P2 –PS.P13, outlined in Chapter 10 Natural and Built Heritage and associated Development Management Standards in Chapter 16 of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p> <p><b>Architectural Heritage (Table 5.2 Strategic Employment Land – Site 5 Bagenalstown House CW280 Gate Lodge CW279)</b></p>

		<p>In view of location the land proximate to the River Barrow and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), development proposals will be required to carefully consider potential flood risk impacts and potential impacts on the SAC, through Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening/Natura Impact Statement (NIS) as appropriate. <del>As Bagenalstown House is a Protected Structure, any development proposals on the land will also require detailed consideration of potential impacts on the character and setting of built heritage.</del></p> <p>Proposals for the reuse and re-development of Bagenalstown House and demesne shall be carried out in accordance with Protected Structure Policies PS.P2 –PS.P13, Country Houses, Demesnes &amp; Gardens Policies CH.P1-CH P.5, and Country Houses, Demesnes &amp; Gardens Objective CH.O1 outlined in Chapter 10 Natural and Built Heritage and associated Development Management Standards in Chapter 16 of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p> <p><b><u>Nature Conservation</u></b></p> <p>The department notes and accepts the conclusion of the Natura Impact Report. Other minor text amendments proposed are as follows:</p> <p><b>Chapter 5</b> Economic Development, Retail &amp; Tourism Table 5.2 shows the areas allocated for 'Strategic Employment Land'. The Department recommends that additional text is added to '3. Land at Royal Oak Distillery' to ensure that any development in this site, is cognisant of the natural setting of the lands, including the native trees, woodland, hedgerows and natural grasslands.</p> <p><b>Chapter 8</b> Infrastructure and Environmental Management Objective A8.O4 requires applicants to ensure they are compliant with the Water Framework Directive. The Department recommends that the text is amended here to also ensure that applicants are also compliant with the Habitats Directive when assessing surface and ground water impacts.</p> <p><b>Chapter 10</b> Climate Action, Environment and Heritage Objective A10. P24 promotes tree and pollinator friendly planting. The Department recommends that text is added to ensure that only native trees of local provenance, or if unavailable national provenance, are proposed.</p>
<p><b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b></p> <p>The Planning Authority welcomes the suggested text changes to ensure protection of the built and natural heritage. Regarding the built heritage proposed text changes to Table 5.2 – Site 3 Holloden House, Site 4 Minch Norton and Co Malt House and the Cottage and Site 5 Bagenalstown House and Gate Lodge are considered appropriate and in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.</p>		

Additions proposed to Chapter 5, 8 and 10 which seek to support protection of natural heritage are also acceptable and in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

### Chief Executive's Recommendation

**Built Heritage:** Amend proposed variation to ~~delete text in red~~ and include additional text in green:

#### **Architectural Heritage (Table 5.2 Strategic Employment Land – Site 3 Holloden House)**

The land at this location, in the townland of Clorusk Lower, are zoned Enterprise and Employment and include the existing established Royal Oak Distillery on the historic grounds of Holloden House (a Protected Structure), with access from the L71095 local road just north of Royal Oak neighbouring centre. It is envisaged that this land use zoning, which extends to c.15.27 hectares, will facilitate potential future expansion of the distillery in a manner that complements existing whiskey manufacturing and associated tourism uses and ~~is sympathetic to the historic character and setting of Holloden House.~~ in accordance with Protected Structure Policies PS.P2 –PS.P13, Country Houses, Demesnes & Gardens Policies CH.P1-CH P.5, and Country Houses, Demesnes & Gardens Objective CH.O1 outlined in Chapter 10 Natural and Built Heritage and associated Development Management Standards in Chapter 16 of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

#### **Architectural Heritage (Table 5.2 Strategic Employment Land – Site 4 Minch Norton and Co Malt House and CW725 The Cottage)**

In view of location the land proximate to the River Barrow and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), development proposals will be required to carefully consider potential flood risk impacts and potential impacts on the SAC, through Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening/Natura Impact Statement (NIS) as appropriate. ~~The location of Protected Structures on the land as noted will also require detailed consideration of potential impacts on the character and setting of built heritage.~~ This location contains two protected structures of very different typologies, one being a substantial historic industrial complex while the other is a finely detailed single historic cottage within a landscaped setting. Each protected structure will require an individualised development response while also taking into consideration their proximity to each other and the adjoining Glebe House which is also a protected structure. Development proposals shall be carried out in accordance with Protected Structure Policies PS.P2 –PS.P13, outlined in Chapter 10 Natural and Built Heritage and associated Development Management Standards in Chapter 16 of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

#### **Architectural Heritage (Table 5.2 Strategic Employment Land – Site 5 Bagenalstown House CW280 Gate Lodge CW279)**

In view of location the land proximate to the River Barrow and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), development proposals will be required to carefully consider potential flood risk impacts and potential impacts on the SAC, through Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening/Natura Impact Statement (NIS) as appropriate. ~~As Bagenalstown House is a Protected Structure, any development proposals on the land will also require detailed consideration of potential impacts on the character and setting of built heritage.~~ Proposals for the reuse and re-development of Bagenalstown House and demesne shall be carried out in accordance with Protected Structure Policies PS.P2 –PS.P13, Country Houses, Demesnes & Gardens Policies CH.P1-CH P.5, and Country Houses, Demesnes & Gardens Objective CH.O1 outlined in Chapter 10 Natural and Built Heritage and associated Development Management Standards in Chapter 16 of Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

**Natural Heritage:** Amend proposed variation to ~~delete text in red~~ and include additional text in green:

### Chapter 5 Economic Development, Retail & Tourism



Table 5.2 Site 3. Land at Royal Oak Distillery' Future development proposals shall seek to ensure that any development in this site, is cognisant of the natural setting of the lands, including the native trees, woodland, hedgerows and natural grasslands.

**Chapter 8** Infrastructure and Environmental Management

Objective A8.O4 to be amended to include additional text in green:

*Require applicants, where necessary, to demonstrate that development proposals will not negatively impact on any surface water or groundwater body, individually as a result of the proposed development, or cumulatively, in combination with other developments, be compliant with the requirements of the Habitats Directive when assessing surface and ground water impacts, the Water Framework Directive and measures to protect and improve our water bodies set down in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027 and any subsequent amendments or revisions to the Plan.*

**Chapter 10** Climate Action, Environment and Heritage

Objective A10. P24 to be amended to include additional text in green:

*Promote appropriate tree planting and pollinator friendly planting, to ensure that only native trees of local provenance, or if unavailable national provenance, are proposed in accordance with the recommendations of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan throughout Muine Bheag/Royal Oak and in open spaces within new developments, in order to enhance local biodiversity, visual amenity and surface water management.*

No.	Name	Issues Raised	
<b>CLW-C162-20</b>	<b>George Doyle</b>	<p>a) Queries suitability of site adjacent McGrath Park in Dunleckny for residential purposes due to previous use of large sections of the site as a quarry and alleged disposal of waste on site and requesting that the site be de-zoned pending a site investigation.</p>	
		<p>b) Recommends a number of uses at the former meat factory site (28.4ha): - considers approximately a third of the site be used for outdoor running track, sports facilities, pedestrian and cycle loop, community garden, wildlife area accessible for school projects, fully serviced sites for locals wishing to self-build, pocket park, walking area and outdoor workout area.</p>	
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>			
<p>a) The referenced site was subject to a review pursuant to S261A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended and it is noted that the site was subject to a grant of permission 94/294 for the excavation of sand and gravel. It was further determined that no action was required as the site was reinstated to agricultural use. The site was also subject to a grant of planning permission for the provision of 32 serviced sites for housing along with associated site works. This permission was subsequently extended pursuant to 16/180 expiring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021. Having regard to the land use zoning history pertaining to the site together with the planning history of the site, location sequentially appropriate for development and the availability of services it is considered that the zoning of the site for residential purposes should remain.</p> <p>b) The area referenced at the former meat factory comprises lands at Moneybeg along the River Barrow and within the flood zone as open space and amenity. Further to submission ref: CLW-C162-9 a proportion of the site is proposed for residential use. The nature of the uses suggested within this submission are not precluded within the range of uses proposed at this location e.g community facilities, playing fields are all uses open for consideration in the enterprise and employment zone and permitted in principle in the new residential zoning, open space and amenity zoning.</p>			
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>			
No change			

## Proposed Chief Executive Changes

A number of minor edits (~~deletions in red~~ and ~~new text in green~~) are proposed to Section A.5.0 Economic Development, Retail and Tourism following engagement with the Economic Development and Enterprise unit of Carlow County Council to further support the implementation of the economic development strategy for Muine Bheag / Royal Oak.

### Section A.5.2 Economic Assets

#### ***Include additional text in Table 5.1 Economic Assets of Muine Bheag / Royal Oak***

There are a number of significant enterprises which have a strong presence in the area, including ~~Magna International Autolaunch Ireland Limited~~, P.B. Machine Tech Ltd., the Carlow Brewing Company, the Royal Oak Distillery, Jones Engineering/Maufacturing, Tanco Autowrap etc. These enterprises present opportunities for further clustering and for new spin off sectors and projects ~~including the development of a community enterprise centre~~, thereby ensuring the town becomes an attractive destination and driver of business and innovation.

### Section A.5.4 Economic Development Strategy

#### ***The economic strategy seeks to support Muine Bheag/Royal Oak by:***

- Prioritising sectors in Muine Bheag/Royal Oak that are likely to drive economic growth for the town, such as manufacturing engineering industries ~~and associated sub supply and support industries.~~
- Developing potential economic opportunities through consultation with the Council, ~~the local enterprise office~~, the IDA, Carlow Chamber of Commerce, Industry, ~~Carlow Tourism~~ and ~~relevant Tourism~~ stakeholders.

### Section A.5.6.2 Town Centre Vibrancy and Vitality

- **Supporting, encouraging and developing the role of festivals and events** ~~such as the Bagenalstown in Bloom Festival~~ which can enhance the attractiveness of the town as a place to visit.

### Section A.5.7.4 Food Tourism

Food can play an important role in tourism and visitor experiences in Muine Bheag/Royal Oak and also provide an important platform for supporting and expanding local economic development. Carlow Brewing Company and Royal Oak Distillery are two key examples of this for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak.

Equally, an increasing interest in locally and organically produced food and healthy lifestyles has seen farmers markets growing in number and popularity across Ireland. ~~Muine Bheag/Royal Oak has the potential to develop food tourism in this area including as a niche tourism product, which would encourage more people to visit the town, with knock on benefits for local businesses.~~

## Part 3 : Submission on Appendices

### Appendix 1: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appendix 2: Natura Impact Report

No.	Name	Issues Raised	
CLW-C162-2	<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	The notice, dated 23rd June 2025, in relation to the Proposed Variation No. 2 of the Carlow County Development Plan ('the Variation') and SEA Environmental Report (the 'SEA ER') is acknowledged. Note that the EPA is one of the statutory environmental authorities under the SEA Regulations. In their role as an SEA environmental authority, focus is on promoting the full and transparent integration of the findings of the Environmental Assessment into the Variation and advocating that the key environmental challenges for Ireland are addressed as relevant and appropriate to the plan. Notes that the functions as an SEA environmental authority do not include approving or enforcing SEAs or plans.	
		As a priority, the EPA focus efforts on reviewing and commenting on key sector plans. For land use plans at county and local level, the EPA provide a 'self-service approach' via the attached guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources'. The document is updated regularly and sets out our key recommendations for integrating environmental considerations into Local Authority Land Use Plans. Suggests that this guidance document is taken into account and incorporate the relevant recommendations, in finalising and implementing the Variation.	
		Notes that Carlow County Council should also ensure that the Variation aligns with key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and is consistent with the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.	
		<b>Content of the Environmental Report</b> The SEA Regulations set out the information to be contained in an Environmental Report.	
		<b>Mitigation Measures</b> Where the potential for likely significant effects is identified, provide appropriate mitigation measures to avoid or minimise these. Ensure that the Plan, as varied includes clear commitments to implement the recommended mitigation measures.	
		<b>Monitoring</b> The Monitoring Programme should be flexible to take account of specific environmental issues and unforeseen adverse impacts should they arise. It should consider and deal with the possibility of cumulative effects. Monitoring of both positive and negative effects should be considered. The monitoring programme should set out the various data sources, monitoring frequencies and responsibilities.	

		<p>If the monitoring identifies adverse impacts during the implementation of the Variation, Carlow County Council should ensure that suitable and effective remedial action is taken.</p> <p>Guidance on SEA-related monitoring is available on the EPA website at <a href="https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/06695-EPA-SEA-Statements-and-Monitoring-Report.pdf">https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/06695-EPA-SEA-Statements-and-Monitoring-Report.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Future Amendments to the Plan</b></p> <p>Requirement to screen any future amendments to the Plan for potential for likely significant effects.</p> <p><b>SEA Statement – “Information on the Decision”</b></p> <p>Once the Variation is made, requirement to prepare an SEA Statement that summarises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How environmental considerations have been integrated into the Variation;</li> <li>• How the Environmental Report, submissions, observations and consultations have been taken into account during the preparation of the Variation;</li> <li>• The reasons for choosing the Variation adopted in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and,</li> <li>• The measures decided upon to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementation of the Variation.</li> </ul> <p>You should send a copy of the SEA Statement with the above information to any environmental authority consulted during the SEA process.</p> <p>Guidance on preparing SEA Statements is available on the EPA website at the following link:  <a href="https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/06695-EPA-SEA-Statements-and-Monitoring-Report.pdf">https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/06695-EPA-SEA-Statements-and-Monitoring-Report.pdf</a>.</p> <p><b>Environmental Authorities</b></p> <p>Under the SEA Regulations, requirement to consult with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency;</li> <li>• Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage;</li> <li>• Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment; and,</li> <li>• Minister for Agriculture, Food, and the Marine. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any adjoining planning authority whose area is contiguous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
<p>The submission from the EPA is noted and the following noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ‘SEA of Local Authority Land-Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources’ document has been considered in the SEA of the Variation and will be kept on file for reference throughout the SEA process.</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Variation aligns with key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and is consistent with the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</li> <li>• The SEA Environmental Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 addresses the requirements of the SEA Regulations.</li> <li>• Appropriate mitigation measures are cited in Section 9 of the SEA Environmental Report and have been integrated into the Proposed Variation or existing Carlow County Development Plan.</li> <li>• Appropriate monitoring measures and associated information are cited in Section 10 of the SEA Environmental Report and have been integrated into the Proposed Variation or existing Carlow County Development Plan. The Guidance from the EPA has been taken into account in preparing the monitoring programme.</li> <li>• Any further alterations to the Variation will be screened for likely significant environmental effects in accordance with SEA Regulations.</li> <li>• Following the making of the Variation, an SEA Statement will be prepared including the required information and taking into account the EPA guidance on SEA Statements.</li> <li>• The relevant environmental authorities have been consulted with as part of the Proposed Variation/SEA process.</li> </ul>
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>
No change.

No.	Name	Issues Raised
<b>CLW-C162-14</b>	<b>Southern Regional Assembly</b>	<p><b>Strategic Environment Assessment and Appropriate Assessment</b></p> <p>Notes that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report was prepared for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028. The SEA Environmental Report considers the proposed variation against a number of environmental baselines, cumulative effects, alternatives considered, and provides appropriate mitigation measures, as well as a methodology for monitoring and reporting. It is noted in the SEA Environmental Report, that the findings and recommendations arising from the SEA process have been integrated into the proposed variation. The Assembly has noted the outcomes in same.</p> <p>A Natura Impact Report was also carried out and concluded that upon the inclusion of suitable mitigation measures, Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 will not result in any adverse effects to the ecological integrity of 1 (no.) European site; namely: the River Barrow and River Nore SAC (Site Code: 002162). It is noted that mitigation measures have been incorporated into the proposed variation, and it is demonstrated that the variation is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects to any designated European site, along, or in combination, with other plans or projects.</p>
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
The comments of the SRA regarding SEA and AA are noted. <u>There are no SEA or AA recommendations for alterations to the Variation arising from this submission.</u> If any proposed alteration to the Variation arises from this submission, it will be screened for the need to undertake SEA and Stage 2 AA.		
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>		
No change.		

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-5	Uisce Éireann	<b>Strategic Environment Assessment</b> Footnote 35 should reference loads received in 2023 not 2021.
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
Details to be updated as requested.		
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation</b>		
<p><sup>1</sup> Uisce Éireann's Wastewater Treatment Capacity Register for County Carlow was circulated in August 2025 and provides an indication of available wastewater treatment capacity based on loads received in 2023 and available treatment plan capacity now or by completion of a relevant project delivering additional capacity. Estimated Spare Capacity is spare capacity available at the WWTP in terms of population equivalents based on available capacity now (August 2025) or by completion of a relevant project currently at construction (where relevant).</p> <p><sup>1</sup> Uisce Éireann's 10-Year Water Supply Capacity Register for County Carlow was circulated in August 2025.</p>		

No.	Name	Issues Raised
CLW-C162-19	<b>Development Applications Unit</b> <b>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</b>	<p><b>Architectural Heritage</b> Text under "Architectural Heritage" identifies cultural and natural heritage sensitivities that have been taken into account by the Proposed Variation and the SEA and/or AA as appropriate. Recommendations specified include the replacement of Proposed Variation text with references to existing Development Plan provisions. <u>There are no SEA or AA recommendations for alterations to the Variation arising from this submission.</u> If any proposed alteration to the Variation arises from this part of the submission, it will be screened for the need to undertake SEA and Stage 2 AA.</p> <p><b>Nature Conservation</b> Text under "Nature Conservation" includes an acceptance of the conclusion of the AA Natura Impact Report. Recommendations relating to nature are specified. <u>There are no SEA or AA recommendations for alterations to the Variation arising from this submission.</u> Recommendations referring to nature could be actioned by altering the cited parts of the Variation as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To insert the following into the text at Table 5.2 'Strategic Employment Land' under No. 3 "Land at Royal Oak Distillery": <b>"Any development in this site, shall be cognisant of the natural setting of the lands, including the native trees, woodland, hedgerows and natural grasslands."</b></li> <li>To insert text in A8. O4 as follows (inserted text in <b>bold</b>): "Require applicants, where necessary, to demonstrate that development proposals will not negatively impact on any surface water or groundwater body, individually as a result of the proposed development, or cumulatively, in combination with other developments, and be compliant with the requirements of the</li> </ul>

		<p>Water Framework Directive, <b>Habitats Directive</b> and measures to protect and improve our water bodies set down in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027 and any subsequent amendments or revisions to the Plan.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To insert text in A10. 24 as follows (inserted text in <b>bold</b>): “Promote appropriate tree planting and pollinator friendly planting, in accordance with the recommendations of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan throughout Muine Bheag/Royal Oak and in open spaces within new developments, in order to enhance local biodiversity, visual amenity and surface water management. <b>This may include recommending trees of local or national provenance.</b>”</li></ul> <p>If any proposed alteration to the Variation arises from this part of the submission, it will be screened for the need to undertake SEA and Stage 2 AA.</p>
<b>Opinion of the Chief Executive</b>		
The comments of the DAU regarding SEA and AA are noted.		
<b>Chief Executive’s Recommendation</b>		
No change.		



## Appendix 1: List of persons / Bodies who made Submissions

Submission Ref. No.	Name
CLW-C162-1	Health and Safety Authority
CLW-C162-2	Environmental Protection Agency
CLW-C162-3	Office of Public Works
CLW-C162-4	Office of the Planning Regulator
CLW-C162-5	Uisce Eireann
CLW-C162-6	Claire Loughran Gardiner
CLW-C162-7	Health Service Executive (NEHS)
CLW-C162-8	Dept. of Education & Youth
CLW-C162-9	Hughes Planning on behalf of Firtree Developments (re: Moneybeg)
CLW-C162-10	Hughes Planning on behalf of Firtree Developments (re: Kilree)
CLW-C162-11	Hughes Planning on behalf of Firtree Developments (re: Royal Oak Road)
CLW-C162-12	Hughes Planning on behalf of Kehoe Family
CLW-C162-13	Kieran McQuillan
CLW-C162-14	Southern Regional Assembly
CLW-C162-15	National Transport Agency
CLW-C162-16	Peter Bolger
CLW-C162-17	Peter Bolger on behalf of MESD
CLW-C162-18	Peter Bolger on behalf of Gillian Rea
CLW-C162-19	Development Applications Unit, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
CLW-C162-20	George Doyle

## Appendix 2: Copy of Public Advert

### PROPOSED VARIATION NO. 2 OF CARLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028 – DRAFT MUINE BHEAG/ROYAL OAK DISTRICT TOWN PLAN 2025

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) that Carlow County Council, being the Planning Authority for the area, proposes to **VARY** the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 in respect of the following:

#### REASON FOR PROPOSED VARIATION:

- To make a new local land use plan (**District Town Plan**) for Muine Bheag/Royal Oak, which will establish the strategic planning framework to guide the proper planning and sustainable development of the town, and which will replace and build on the previously operative Muine Bheag/Royal Oak Local Area Plan 2017-2023 (as extended), while taking account of national and regional planning policy, the key planning issues for the area that have emerged in the intervening period to date, and the Core Strategy of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028.
- To incorporate the **draft and final Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan** into the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028, and to ensure consistency of the **Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan** with the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028, it is proposed to vary the County Development Plan.

#### DISPLAY OF PROPOSED VARIATION:

A copy of the Proposed Variation, together with:

- a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report, prepared in accordance with the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I No. 436 of 2004) (as amended);
- an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report pursuant to the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended); and,
- a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment pursuant to The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines (2009); and,
- a Local Transport Plan pursuant to Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) Guidance Notes (2018) and ABTA How to Guide (2021).

will be available for public viewing online at <https://consult.carlow.ie/> and in hard copy at the following locations, during their normal opening hours from **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 to 5pm on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2025** inclusive:

- Carlow County Council, County Buildings, Athy Road, Carlow.
- Muine Bheag Library, Main Street, Muine Bheag, Co. Carlow.

#### MAKING A SUBMISSION:

Submissions or observations regarding the Proposed Variation and the associated reports are hereby invited from the public and interested bodies. Children, or groups or associations representing the interests of children, are entitled to make a submission or observation. Written submissions or observations made on or before 5.00pm on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 will be taken into consideration before the making of the **PROPOSED VARIATION**. Submissions and observations may be made in one of the following ways:

- i. Through the relevant consultation portal <http://consult.carlow.ie>
- ii. By email to [muinebheagroyaloakplan@carlowcoco.ie](mailto:muinebheagroyaloakplan@carlowcoco.ie)
- iii. In writing marked "Proposed Variation No. 2- Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028" and sent to the following address:

**Carlow County Council**, Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department, Athy Road, Carlow.

- All submissions should be in one medium only i.e., hard copy **or** via the consultation portal online **or** by email. This will avoid the duplication of submission reference numbers and will streamline the process.
- Include your name and address and, where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company you represent on a separate page to the content of your submission, in order to assist in complying with the provisions of the Data Protection Act.
- The Planning process is an open and public one. In that context, all submissions / observations will be taken into consideration, are a matter of public record and will be placed on the County Councils websites. Please be advised that the name of the person(s)/group(s) who make submissions will be published, but personal data will be redacted. This processing of your personal data is lawful under Article 6(1)(e) of the GDPR Regulations.

The Councils Data Protection Policy, is available at: <https://carlow.ie/governance-and-administration/data-protection-policy>

**YOU ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO MAKE YOUR SUBMISSION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. LATEST TIME FOR RECEIPT OF SUBMISSIONS (POST/ONLINE/EMAIL) IS 5.00pm on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.**

## Appendix 3: List of Bodies Notified

Organisation
Chief Executive, Laois County Council Director of Services, Laois County Council
Chief Executive, Kilkenny County Council Senior Planner, Kilkenny County Council
Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council Senior Planner, Wicklow County Council
Chief Executive, Wexford County Council Senior Executive Planner, Wexford County Council
Chief Executive, Kildare County Council Forward Planning, Kildare County Council
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Minister / Forward Planning)
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Development Applications Unit)
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (Corporate Support Unit)
Climate Change and Bio Energy Division, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Environmental Co-ordination unit)
Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (Minister)
Department of Defence (Minister)
Department of Education (Site Acquisition and Property Management)
Department of Education (Minister)
Department of Rural and Community Development (Minister)
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (Minister)
Department of Transport (Minister)
Southern Regional Assembly (Regional Planning Officer)
Inland Fisheries Ireland (CEO)
Environmental Protection Agency (Senior Scientific Officer)
OPW (Director of Flood Management)
Uisce Éireann / Irish Water (Regional Forward Planning Specialist)
Waterways Ireland (CEO)
Office of the Planning Regulator (Executive Officer)
An Bórd Pleanála (Executive Officer)
An Comhairle Ealaíon
Dept. Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Minister)
Fáilte Ireland (Chief Executive)
Heritage Council (Chief Executive Officer)
Dublin Airport Authority (Chief Executive Officer)
Eirgrid (Chief Executive Officer)
ESB (Electric Ireland) / ESB Networks
Health Service Executive
The Health and Safety Authority (Chief Executive Officer)

An Taisce (Planning and Environmental Policy Officer)
Transport Infrastructure Ireland (Senior Land Use Planner)
National Transport Authority
Local Community Development Committee (Development Officer)
Commission for the Regulation of Utilities
Gas Networks Ireland
Irish Rail
Carlow County Development Partnership
Jennifer Murnane O'Connor TD
Catherine Callaghan TD
Peter Cleere TD
John McGuinness TD
Natasha Newsome Drennan TD
Cllr. Fergal Browne
Mr. John Cassin
Ms. Andrea Dalton
Cllr. Jim Deane
Cllr. Paul Doogue
Mr. Michael Doran
Mr. Andy Gladney
Mr. Thomas Kinsella
Cllr. Ken Murnane
Cllr. Charlie Murphy
Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue
Cllr. William Paton
Cllr. John Pender
Cllr. Daniel Pender
Cllr. Fintan Phelan
Cllr. Willie Quinn
Cllr. Adrienne Wallace
Cllr. Ben Ward
Public Participation Network
IDA, Three Park Place
Chief Executive, Enterprise Ireland



COMHAIRLE CONTAE  
CHEATHARLACH

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Oifigí an Chontae,  
Bóthar Átha Í,  
Ceatharlach, R93E7R7

105

County Buildings,  
Athy Road,  
Carlow, R93E7R7

28<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

T: 059 9170300

E: [See carlowie/contact-us](mailto:See carlowie/contact-us)

W: [carlowie](http://carlowie)

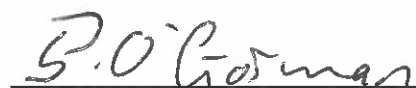
**TO: An Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Carlow County Council**

**RE: Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993; Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended; and Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act, 2010 - commencement of the public consultation process for taking-in-charge of roads and services at:**

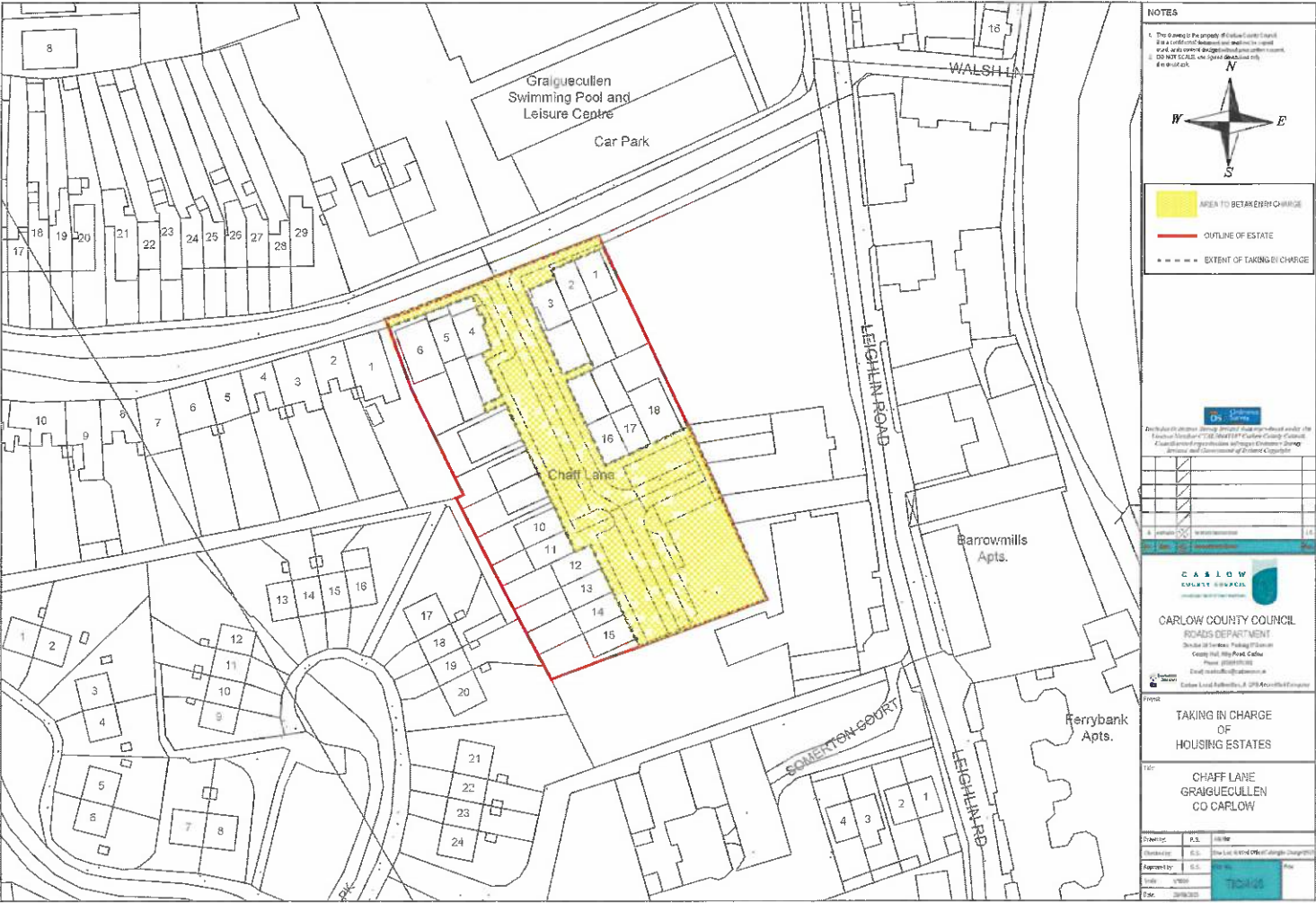
- 1. Chaff Lane, Chaff Street, Graiguecullen, Carlow**
- 2. Monastery Court (Units 1 – 6), Tullow, Co. Carlow**

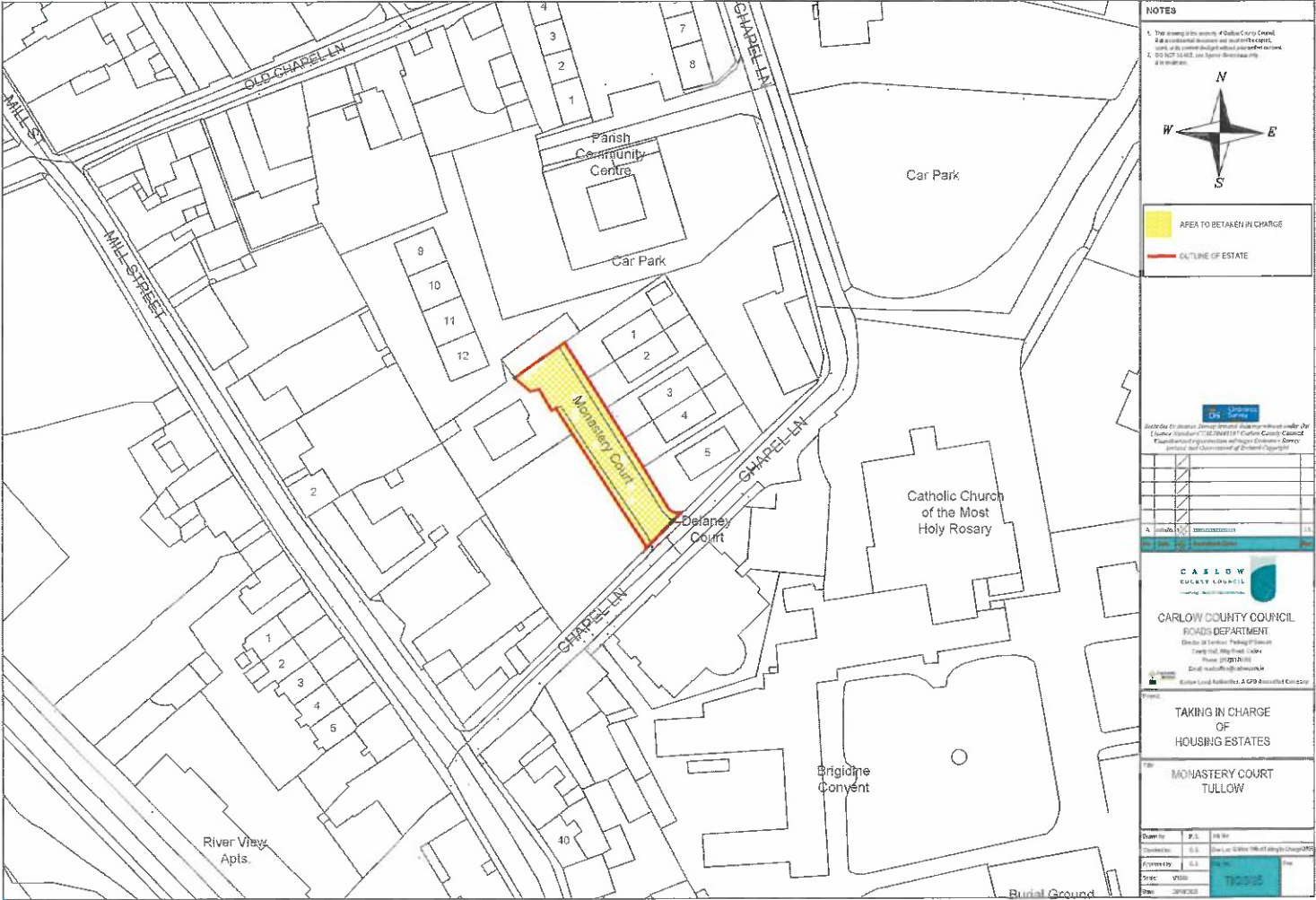
The above schemes have been surveyed for defects, and the estates are deemed to be in a condition suitable for taking in charge. In light of that, it is proposed to advertise the Council's intentions to take the estates as listed above in charge.

Subject to the approval of Council, the necessary advertisement to enable the taking in charge procedure to commence will appear in the Nationalist and Leinster Times on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025.



**Pádraig O'Gorman,  
Director of Services,  
Transportation, Environment, Water Services,  
Building Control & Emergency Services.**







## CONFERENCE LIST FOR COUNCIL MEETING

108

### September Meeting

– 2025 –

No	Organised By	Venue	Theme	Dates	Fee
1	AILG	Westport Woods Hotel (Mayo)	AILG 2025 Autumn Training Seminar	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	€175
2	AILG	Horse & Jockey, Tipperary	October Training Module OPR Elected Members Planning Training	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	€90
3	AILG	Ravenport Resort (Waterford)	November Training Module Supporting Councillors: responding to Mental Health, Suicide and Addiction Issues	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	€90
		Radisson Blu Hotel (Athlone)	Out of Region Option	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	
4	LAMA	TBC	LAMA Autumn Seminar	16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> October	TBC
5	LAMA	Royal Convention Centre	LAMA Awards	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	TBC
6	AILG	Hotel Kilkenny	SPC Chair Training Workshop	3 <sup>rd</sup> September	€90
7	Celtic Conferences	The Four Seasons Hotel Carlingford, Co. Louth	“A practical Guide to Budget 2026”	10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> October	€130
8	Celtic Conferences	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	Autumn Conference	November	€130

**Iúil  
Lúnasa**



COMHAIRLE CONTA **109**  
CHEATHARLACH  
CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL



**July &  
August  
2025**

**Tuarascáil  
Bainistíochta an  
Phríomhfheidhme**

**Chief  
Executive's  
Report**

*Ullmhaithe faoin Alt 136, an tAcht Rialtais Áitiúil, 2001, agus Alt 51, an tAcht Rialtais Áitiúil (Athchóiriú), 2014 / Prepared under Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government (Reform) Act, 2014*



**Do: Gach Ball Comhairle Contae Cheatharlach**

**To: Each Member of Carlow County Council**

Tugtar léargas sa Tuarascáil Bainistíochta Míosúil seo ar rialachas leanúnach Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach agus tá sé á chur ar fáil do d'fhaisnéis agus do bhreithniú. / This Chief Executive's Report gives an overview of the operations and governance of Carlow County Council and is being provided for your information and consideration.

Clúdaíonn an tuarascáil na réimsí Stiúirthóireachta seo a leanas / The report covers the following Directorate areas.

**P. J. Leonard, Ceann Airgeadais / Director of Finance:**

Airgeadas, TFC, Soláthar & Mótarchánach  
Finance, ICT, Procurement & Motor Tax

**Paula O'Brien, Stiúirthóir Seirbhísí / A/ Director of Services:**

Gnóthaí Corparáideacha/Acmhainní Daonna, Pleanáil, Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht, Forbairt Eacnamaíoch/an Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil, / Corporate Affairs, Human Resources, Planning, Health & Safety, Economic Development & LEO

**Padraig O'Gorman, Stiúirthóir Seirbhísí / Director of Services:**

Stiúirthóir Seirbhísí: Iompar, an Comhshaol agus Seirbhísí Uisce, Rialú Foirgníochta agus Seirbhísí Éigeandála / Transportation, Environment & Water Services, Building Control & Emergency Services

**Michael Brennan, Stiúirthóir Seirbhísí / Director of Services:**

Forbairt Pobail, Caitheamh Aimsire, Taitneamhacht, Spóirt, Ealaíona, Cultúr, Leabharlanna, Músaem & Oidhreacht. / Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts, Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage

**Fiona O'Neill, Stiúirthóir Seirbhísí / A/Director of Services:**

Tithíocht, Freadgairt dhaonnúil na hÚcráine / Housing, Ukrainian Humanitarian Response

*Coilín O'Reilly*

**Chief Executive**  
**Coilín O'Reilly**

## CLÁR ÁBHAR / TABLE OF CONTENTS



### Contents

<b>GNÓTHAÍ CORPARÁIDEACHA/CORPORATE AFFAIRS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>OIFIG FIONTAIR ÁITIÚL/LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCH/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCH/SPECIAL PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PLEANÁIL AGUS FORBAIRT/PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ATHNUACHANA/REGENERATION .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>BÓITHRE, IOMPAR AGUS TIONSCADAIL SPEISIALTA/TRANSPORTATION &amp; SPECIAL PROJECTS.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>AN COMHSHAOL AGUS CNÍOMHÚ AR SON NS HAERDÁITHE/ENVIRONMENT &amp; CLIMATE ACTION .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>SEIRBHÍSI ÉIGEANDÁLA RIALÚ FOIRGNAÍOCHTA/EMERGENCY SERVICES/BUILDING CONTROL.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>AN RANNÓG TITHÍOCHTA/HOUSING DEPARTMENT .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>FAOISEAMH DAONNÚIL ÚCRÁNACH /UKRAINIAN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>AN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT AIRGEADAIS/FINANCE DIRECTORATE .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>MÓTARCHÁIN/ MOTOR TAX.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>POBAL, ÁINEAS AGUA TAITNEMHACHT / COMMUNITY, RECREATION AND AMENITY .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>AN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT CULTÚR/CULTURE DIRECTORATE .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>LEABHARLAN CONTAE CHEATHERLACH/CARLOW COUNTY LIBRARY.....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>AN TSEIRBHÍS EALAÍON/ARTS SERVICE .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>SEIRBHÍSEALAÍON/HERITAGE SERVICES .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>MÚSAEM CHONTAE CHEATHARLACH/CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM .....</b>	<b>47</b>



## GNÓTHAÍ CORPARÁIDEACHA/ CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Corporate Affairs	July	August
Freedom of Information Requests	7	4
Ombudsman Complaints	2	1
Meetings Facilitated for Elected Members Corporate	3	0
Electors Registered to Vote	48,924	48,799

### Register of Electors:

The Electoral Reform Act 2022 introduced the modernization of the Electoral Register, which allows for a rolling or continually updating register. This is more convenient for electors as they can register or update their details at any time, other than the closing date before a polling day (14 days). Voters go to [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) if they want to check if they are registered to vote or check or update their details. Work is progressing for the migration to the National System Voter.ie which is the centralised platform for all Register Information.

Carlow County Council continued with the Register of Electors Campaign, that was launched in April 2025 in the Fairgreen Shopping Centre, continuing with Library visits which included Carlow Town Library on 10th July attended by Cathaoirleach, Cllr Ken Murnane. At the campaign events Carlow County Council members of staff from the Franchise Team were available to assist people to update details on [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) or register for the first time. The emphasis of the campaign is that the People of Carlow are being encouraged to update their details on the register with their PPS Number, date of birth and Eircode. These events will continue throughout the coming months. Future events will take place in September (dates tbc) Third Level Institutes & Schools. Details will be uploaded on the Carlow County Council website [www.carlow.ie](http://www.carlow.ie)

### Older People's Council Information Roadshow

On the 15<sup>th</sup> July the Franchise Team attended the Older People's Council Information Roadshow in Hacketstown Fire Station and 26<sup>th</sup> August in Tullow Fire Station. The Franchise Team were on hand to assist all attendees to update their details on [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie). The Franchise Team will attend upcoming Roadshows scheduled for: Bagenalstown – Tuesday, 18th November.

### Living Well Expo 2025

The Franchise Team will be available at the Living Well Expo, a highlight of Positive Ageing Week, in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Carlow on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

### Bee Visible

Carlow County Council Franchise staff organised the display of signs on the main roads in Carlow town. These signs are to encourage people to update their details on the register of electors or register to vote. The signs were on display from the 30<sup>th</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> August at the following locations:

**Kilkenny Road/ SETU** – Travelling towards Bagenalstown

**O'Brien Road/Gaelcholaiste** – Catching traffic travelling from Tullow Road Roundabout and Askea Church Car Park IRISH

**O'Brien Road/REL** – Catching traffic travelling from Dublin Road Roundabout

**Dr Cullen Road/Netwatch Cullen Park** – Catching traffic travelling towards Dublin Road Roundabout

### Parish Newsletter

Carlow County Council Franchise staff arranged for notices to be placed in Parish Newsletters around the county to ask the people of Carlow to update their details on the register of Electors. 'Even if you receive a polling card, you now need to add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode to the register'.

### Communications and Customer Service Desk

Seirbhís do Chustaiméirí/Customer Services	July	August
Telephone Calls Received	1,397	1,125
Customers to Reception	738	647
Website Visitors	49,025	47,641
Media	7	13

### Regional Advert Campaign:

Carlow County Council working in collaboration with Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford & Wexford County Councils arrange for a monthly Regional Advert for radio and social media platforms. The advert topic for the month of July & August: Libraries and the advert wording as follows:

'The Summer Stars reading adventure lands in your local library from June-August. To enjoy the fun and pleasure of reading over the summer. Children can register for their adventure at their local library, Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book/e-book is regarded as having completed the programme and will receive a certificate and medal for their participation. This is your Council working for you in Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford.'

### Reports & Plans:

Annual Report 2024, Report uploaded to website.

### Performance Indicators:

2024 Indicators – Request for Data. The deadline for compliance with the submission of data to the LG Returns system in respect of the 2024 performance closed on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025. During the months of July & August arising queries were processed.

The National Oversight & Audit Committee Report will be published later in the year.

### July Council Meeting

Cathaoirleach Cllr Ken Murnane presented Cllr John Pender with a gift in recognition of 40 years' service as an Elected Member to Carlow.



## OIFIG FIONTAIR ÁITIÚL/ LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

	No.	Ytd
Direct Financial Support Granted	26	135
No. of Completed Mentoring	38	316
Business Advice Clinics	20	191
Participants for all training programmes	136	899
Start your own Business Programme	20	89
No of Ongoing Mentoring	17	17

### Turas Nua

The Local Enterprise Office executive held a meeting with Turas Nua to develop a strategy to allow both agencies work in partnership to support local employers experiences challenges in recruiting staff.

### Powerhouse Business Break

A Powerhouse Business Break focused on the integration of AI into business operations. 20 Carlow female business owners participated.

### Enterprise House Summer Networking Event

Over 90 people attended the Enterprise House Summer Networking event. This event was organised by the Local Enterprise Office and Enterprise House to enable business networking amongst tenant businesses.

### ‘Spark Series’ Vlogs

The Local Enterprise Office, in partnership with the LEO in Kilkenny, launched the ‘Spark Series’, a series of video interviews with prominent business leaders which will be released every Tuesday and Thursday for the remainder of 2025.

### Green for Business Clinic

Carlow LEO hosted a Green for Business Clinic, assisting seven companies and encouraging them to take advantage of the green support programs available to businesses.

GRANT APPROVED (Ytd)	No.	€
<b>Financial Assistance to Manufacturing &amp; International Services Companies</b>		
Business Expansion Grants Approved	3	€97,815
Priming Grants Approved	5	€126,982
Feasibility Grants Approved	4	€27,904
Market Exporter Grants	1	€7,089
Lean for Business Grants Approved	24	€48,100
Green for Business Grants Approved	23	€41,240
Digital for Business Grants Approved	41	€67,213
Energy Efficiency Grant	21	€162,656
Grow Digital Grant	10	€42,418
Agile Innovation Grants Approved		
Grad Start	2	€60,000
IP Start	1	€2,160





## FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCH/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Streetfest / Your Lower Tullow Street

A Shop Local Shop Carlow Competition is currently ongoing in tandem with the National Cairn Community Games with 367 entries to date. During August the final Streetfest planned for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 was launched. This event will include a family experience, traditional music, face painting and a tour bus.

### Pan Celtic 2025

The Executive attended a meeting with Pan Celtic Committee of local vintners in July to plan for Pan Celtic 2026 and reported to Carlow MD. A further meeting is arranged for September.

### #ShopLocalShopCarlow

The Digital Campaign content continued to be promoted via Social Media during the summer months with 1m views to date. Photography sessions for the Shop Local Shop Carlow Christmas Campaign were taken during the month of August with 35 retailers participating in same. The campaign is in collaboration with Carlow Tourism and County Carlow Chamber.

### Casual Trading Licenses

25 One Day Casual Trading Licenses were issued during July and August for events in Carlow Town Park and Ducketts Grove.

The Executive has commenced a review of Casual Trading Bye Laws in County Carlow, and these will be presented to Elected Members in September.

### The Exchange

The Exchange was used for a Pop Up Market and two photo shoots during August.

### County Carlow – Samhain 2025

Meetings continue to take place with Arts, Libraries, County Carlow Sports Partnership, Visual and Carlow Tourism and Delta Sensory Gardens to collaboratively plan a programme for Samhain 2025 and photography for Media Campaign in relation to promoting the events was taken in August.

### Carlow Tourism & Fáilte Ireland

The Executive met with Carlow Tourism to discuss planning events for the final quarter including Food Network Event. Funding of €22,000 was allocated for additional activities in respect of the Food Network activities which includes a restaurant week to be hosted in October.



## FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCH/SPECIAL PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT

### Industrial Estates & Enterprise Spaces

The following projects were progressed in respect of Industrial Estates & Enterprise Spaces during July/August 2025:

- Catalyst HQ (Carlow): The evaluation process for the Catalyst HQ continues with further information being provided to Enterprise Ireland.
- Solar Upgrade Enterprise House: The contractor was awarded for the Solar Upgrade to Enterprise House with install scheduled for September 2025.

### Creative Europe – EU Craft Work 4.0

Work continues the project, with regular weekly communications regarding key metrics. 2 crafters from Ireland will travel to Sweden in September 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> for the Stone and Soul Craft Academy, 2 crafters from Ireland will also participate online.

**EU Funding Applications – Erasmus Plus** Hands Across Generations which fosters intergenerational learning to preserve Europe’s intangible cultural heritage application was approved with €400,000 of EU Funding.

### Communicating Europe Initiative 2025

€6,000 in funding was awarded under the Communicating Europe Initiative for the delivery of a PR campaign and EU Project workshop.

### Creativity Chats – Creative Ireland

In partnership with the Library a series of Podcasts called Creativity Chats was launched in August 2025. The podcast series will be followed by a series of Virtual Coffee talks in September/October 2025.



# PLEANÁIL AGUS FORBAIRT/PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

## Bainistíocht Airgeadais/

### Development Management

	July	Aug	YTD
No. Pre-Planning Meetings Held	9	5	66
FI/Clarification Requests (2025)	19	22	101
FI/Clarification Requests (2024)	1	1	92
Decisions to Refuse	3	1	20
Decisions to Grant	29	19	207
Total Valid Application Received	28	23	210
Invalid Planning Application	8	13	71
Planning Applications Received	36	36	281

## Láithreáin Thréigthe/

### Derelict Sites

	July/Aug	YTD
No. of Derelict Sites on the Register	10	10
No. of Active Files	1	30
Notices/letters Complied with/Closed	5	22
Letters Issued to owner/occupier	8	32
Complaints Received	4	6
No. of Derelict Sites Files Closed	2	6
Meetings Held with Developer	2	6
DS Archived	101	108

## Bannaí Slándála a Phleanáil/ Planning Security Bonds

	YTD
Total No. of Bonds Files	101
Total No. of Compliance Letters Issued	48
No. of Bonds Files Closed	33
Cash Security Received 2025	€517,080
Security Bond Held	€3,514,314.01
Bank/Guarantee Bonds	€1,503,706.70
Bonds Archived	174

## Gníomhaíochtaí Forfheidhmithe/ Enforcement Activities

	July/Aug	YTD
Court Proceedings Ongoing	10	10
Warning Letter Issued	11	21
Enforcement Notice Served	0	2
Complaints Closed	19	85
Complaints Received	13	52

## Struchtúir Chontúirteacha/

### Dangerous Structures

	July/Aug	YTD
Complaints Received	7	14
Notices/Letters Issued	5	8
No of Active Files	13	
No. of Live Dangerous Structure	3	

## Tógáil Eastáit i gCúram / Eastáist

### Neamhchriochnaithe – Taking In Charge of Estates/ Unfinished Estates

	YTD
Dev. Under Review (Subject to Security Bond Funding)	6
Proposed Declaration S180 P&D Act	0
Development TIC	7
Requests Received for TIC	2
TIC Archived	70

## Development Management

### Development Contribution Scheme 2025 – 2029

Pursuant to the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), a new Development Contribution Scheme 2025-2029 was adopted at the July meeting of Council. The new scheme of charges commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025.

## Forward Planning

### Update on Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

- The Residential Zoned Land Tax Annual Draft Map for 2026 was published on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 and is available to view at [consult.carlow.ie](https://consult.carlow.ie). The map identifies land that meets the relevant criteria for inclusion on the map, as set out in legislation. Submissions could be made by the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to identify additional land that may fall in scope, challenge the inclusion of land on the map, challenge the date from which the land is considered to be in scope and / or support the proposed exclusion of land. Two submissions were received during the public consultation period. Determinations on the submissions issued in accordance with the legislative requirements on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2025.
- The Final Map for 2025 was published on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and identifies land that may be liable to tax in 2025. Owners of such land had until the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to make a request to Carlow County Council to change the zoning of the land. One submission was received during the public consultation period. A Chief Executive's Report on the proposed rezoning request was formally considered by the Elected Members at the June full Council Meeting. A proposed Variation on the proposed land use zoning change will be facilitated in due course.

### Update on Development Plans

- Proposed Variation No. 2 of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 to incorporate the draft and final Muine Bheag/Royal Oak District Town Plan 2025, went on public display during the period 24 June 2025 to 28 July 2025. A Chief Executive's Report on the submissions received (20 no.) has been prepared and was circulated to the Elected Members for their consideration on 19 August 2025, pursuant to Section 13(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An informal workshop was subsequently held with the Elected Members on 27 August 2025 to run through and discuss the content of the Chief Executive's Report. The formal consideration of the Chief Executive's Report by the Elected Members will take place at full Council Meeting on 8 September 2025.
- The preparation of the Draft Tullow District Town Plan 2025 will then follow, with public display anticipated in Q4 2025.

## Key Planning Updates

### Section 28: Ministerial Guidelines

***Design Standards for Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025)*** – issued 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025. The Guidelines set out policy and guidance in relation to the planning and development of apartment schemes, and take account of current Government policy and economic, social and environmental considerations. The Guidelines outline policies relating to apartment mix, internal space standards and other related design features including floor to ceiling heights, storage spaces, amenity spaces etc. Link: [Design Standards for Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities](#)

***National Planning Framework Implementation - Housing Growth Requirements*** - issued 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025. These Guidelines require all local authorities to assess the current County Development Plan against the new housing growth requirements. This assessment will involve a review of the relevant core strategy and settlement strategy, with the associated identification of development potential and zoning objectives updated where necessary to reflect the new housing growth requirements. A Chief Executive's Report demonstrating the means by which it is proposed to secure the uplift in housing targets will be presented to the Elected Members in due course. Link: [Section 28 Guidelines - NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements](#)

### Legislative Updates

***Extension of Duration – Planning and Development Act 2000 Regulations 2025 (S.I. No 378/2025)*** – effective 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2025. Planning Circular PLR 02/2025 Extension of duration of permissions for un-commenced housing development and suspension of running of duration of permission during judicial review proceedings. The new provision in Section 42 allows for extensions of duration of un-commenced housing development (one or more houses) subject to certain requirements being met. Link: [Planning Circular PLR 02/2025 Extension of duration of permissions for un-commenced housing development and suspension of running of duration of permission during judicial review proceedings](#)

***The European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025 (S.I. 274 of 2025)*** – effective 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025 has given effect to specified articles of the Renewable Energy Directive III, by making amendments to the Planning and Development Act 2000 and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 to 2025. The regulations include mandatory permitting granting timelines for various types of renewable energy projects, disapplication of further information requests for smaller scale projects (e.g., small scale solar equipment developments/ heat pumps), the designation of renewable energy plants as being in the overriding public interest for the purposes of appropriate assessment together with new EIA related provisions. Link: [European Union \(Planning and Development\) \(Renewable Energy\) Regulations 2025](#)



## ATHNUACHANA/REGENERATION

### Clár Gníomhachtaithe/

#### Vacant & Derelict Property Activation Programme

Vacant/Derelict Properties identified through survey	673
Properties activated	611
Action being taken by owners	173
Owner has engaged	93
Properties brought back in to use	146

### Deontas Athchóirithe Maoine Fola/

#### Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

Applications Received	156
FI Requested	17
Inspection to be carried out	8
Applications Approved	56
Applications Declined	3
Applications Withdrawn	33
Works Complete being processed for payment	7
Grants paid to date	32

### Clár CPO/ CPO Programme

CPO Commenced	41
CPO Withdrawn	5
CPO Referred to ABP	0
Vested	18

## REGENERATION

### Glaó 3 URDF/

#### URDF Call 3

Properties approved	14
Activated	14
CPO commenced	5
CPO Referred to ABP	1
Vested	4
Acquired	1
Sale Agreed	2

### Suíomhanna Tréigthe/ Derelict Sites

Section 8(2) Notice	12
Section 8(7) Notice	1

## ***Town Centre First*** **Muinebheag Town Centre First Plan**

Tender process completed and Consultant appointed to prepare Town Centre First Plan.  
**Town & Village Renewal Projects**

PROJECT	PROJECT ELEMENTS	STATUS	COST
<b>Tullow</b>	Improvements to Riverfront Amenity Area, St. Austin's Well and Biodiversity Garden, provision of signage, Virtual Heritage Trail and a paint scheme.	Works ongoing.	€406,600
<b>Clonegal</b>	Village enhancement project to include paint scheme, signage, upgrade of Heritage Centre, public realm upgrades in village furniture and Wicklow Way Park.	Works ongoing	€110,240
<b>Carrigduff</b>	Playground and Learn to Ride Cycle Area in Carrigduff. Contracts signed. Works scheduled to commence in September.	On-site works to commence in September	€277,770
<b>St. Mullins</b>	Village enhancements to include community park and parking enhancement, paint scheme, signage, and public realm upgrade. Works commenced on seating, painting and signage.	Works ongoing	€130,000

## **Rural Regeneration & Development Projects**

PROJECT	PROJECT ELEMENTS	STATUS	COST
<b>Schoolhouse Rathvilly</b>	Provision of a Community Centre through the renovation of existing original structure.	Commenced. QS/PM appointed. Meeting held with Rathvilly Group on 24 <sup>th</sup> July. Tender for Design Team being prepared.	€2,737,384

## **Thrive Project**

PROJECT	PROJECT ELEMENTS	STATUS	COST
<b>Former Bank of Ireland Building, Court Place, Carlow</b>	The redevelopment of the premises for office use.	THRIVE funding application submitted, Decision expected in coming weeks.	TBC





# BÓITHRE, IOMPAR AGUS TIONSCADAIL SPEISIALTA/ ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

	Jul-Aug-2025	Ytd
Road Opening Licence	64	323
Abnormal Load Permits	45	91
Public Lighting Report		
Public Lighting repairs	106	564
Reported Outages	87	173
Total No of Ticketing awaiting repair	96	

\*Please note that Total No of Tickets includes faults that require ESB to attend, traffic Management reports, access issues etc. This figure will change throughout the month as the status of jobs changes.

**Lighting outages that have been referred to ESB:**

- Bunclody Rd
- Ballinabrannagh Church
- Abbey St Templeowen
- Old Chapel Lane **\*\***(lighting design in review) **\*\***
- Somerton Court

**Jobs awaiting Traffic Management Plans**

- Tullow St (to be upgraded as part of PLEEP Works Programme)

Funding Category	Project Name & Updates	Status
National Road Maintenance Investment	Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) provide funding for the maintenance & improvement of the National Road network throughout the county	On the 28 <sup>th</sup> of March Transport Infrastructure Ireland allocated Carlow County Council €1,455,653 for the maintenance & improvement of the National Road network throughout the county. €210,295 has been claimed to date from TII.
National Road Improvement Investment	N80 Leagh Bends Scheme	On 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024, Carlow Co Co formally submitted the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Section 177AE Planning Application, and</li><li>- Compulsory Purchase Order Application</li></ul> to An Bord Pleanála for consideration with a closing date for submissions of the 31 <sup>st</sup> of Jan 2025. Subsequently on the 21 <sup>st</sup> of March 2025 Carlow County Council received correspondence from ABP outlining that 24 submissions were received & requested a response for same. Thereafter, Carlow Co Co



	<p>N81 Ballyoliver to Rathvilly (CPI Scheme)</p> <p>N80 Whitemills (CPI Scheme)</p>	<p>prepared responses and submitted to ABP on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2025. Oral Hearing has been set for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Meetings have been ongoing with Kildare National Roads Office and liaison with residents who submitted observations prior to the Oral Hearing.</p> <p>Carlow received €490,000 towards this project. Contracts have been awarded and works commenced in June and are substantially complete. (Road studs to be placed in coming weeks)</p> <p>Carlow received €295,000 towards this project. Contracts have been awarded and works and commenced in July, now being substantially complete. (Road studs to be placed in coming weeks)</p>
<b>Regional &amp; Local Road Grant Allocations</b>	<p>The Department of Transport (DOT) provides funding for the maintenance &amp; improvement of the Regional &amp; Local Road network throughout the county.</p> <p>Strategic Improvement Project <i>(Carlow Southern Relief Road)</i></p> <p>Potential Specific Improvement Project <i>(Tullow Relief Road)</i></p> <p>Potential Specific Improvement Project <i>(Muinebheag Relief Road)</i></p> <p>Specific Improvement Project <i>(R448 @ Royal Oak Road Junction)</i></p>	<p>Carlow has received the 2025 Regional and Local Road Grants of €8,946,800 from Department of Transport. The Allocation has been apportioned out to MDs and the work programmes for 2025 have commenced. €3.65m has been claimed to date from the Department.</p> <p>Carlow County Council has submitted its Phase 1 deliverables to the Department of Transport, marking a significant milestone in the progression of the project, delivered in collaboration with the design consultants in August 2025. Following a comprehensive review, the Department of Transport has sanctioned approval to proceed to Phase 2 – Options Selection, which will be delivered through a structured 15-month programme.</p> <p>Carlow has submitted a Preliminary Appraisal to the Department of Transport, seeking funding for 2025 to undertake the necessary assessments to progress the project. No funding approved for 2025 by the Dept.</p> <p>Carlow is currently developing a Preliminary Appraisal submission for the Department of Transport, which would provide funding to progress the necessary assessments.</p> <p>The options &amp; feasibility report for this scheme was presented to the December meeting of the Muinebheag Municipal District, receiving approval to proceed with a Section 38 application.</p>

		<p>Subsequently, on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Carlow published the required notice indicating the details and particulars of the proposed works are available for inspection from Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025 until 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- online at <a href="http://www.carlow.ie">www.carlow.ie</a>, and</li><li>- between the hours of 9:15am and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays, at:</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• County Buildings, Athy Road, Carlow. R93E7R7</li><li>• Municipal District Offices, McGrath Hall, Muinebheag, Co. Carlow. R21WR66</li><li>• Tullow Civic Offices, Inner Relief Rd., Tullow, Co. Carlow. R93XD93</li><li>• Borris Library, Lower Main St., Borris, Co. Carlow. R95HF25</li></ul> <p>The closing date for submissions was the 23<sup>rd</sup> July.</p> <p>Submissions are now being considered.</p>
Local Improvement Scheme	Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht	<p>A further allocation to the value of €328,537 was received through the LIS Scheme in August 2025. In total 27 private roads and lanes will see improvement works countywide equating to total cost of €690,000.</p>
Hedge Cutting	<p>Under Section 70 of the <a href="#">Roads Act 1993</a>, landowners and occupiers of land are obliged to take all reasonable care to ensure that trees, ditches, hedges and other vegetation growing on their land are not a hazard or a potential danger to people using or working on a public road or public footpath.</p> <p>Examples of hazards might be dead or dying trees, ditches or hedges interfering with traffic, blocking footpaths, obscuring road signs, public lighting or a view of the road ahead.</p> <p>Restrictions on cutting hedgerows are set out in Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976 as amended by the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Heritage Act 2018. These Acts stipulate that it is an offence to destroy vegetation on uncultivated land between the <b>1st of March</b> and the <b>31st of August</b> each year.</p>	<p>Publication of Notice was placed in Carlow Nationalist dated Tuesday 12th August 2025 notifying landowners of their obligations under the legislation and the Hedge Cutting season between the 1st September 2025 to 28th February 2026.</p>

<b>Speed Limit Review</b>	Default Urban Speed Limits	The drafting of the guidelines for setting speed limits in urban areas, in line with the recommendations for the 2023 Speed Limits Review, is at an advanced stage. LA Engineering staff received workshops in April with a draft version of Chapters 4 and 7 of the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland to enable progress of the Urban speed limit review. These draft guidelines when available will enable further progress of the speed limit review
	Full Speed Limit Review	The members were advised at the February meeting that a full speed limit review will be undertaken in 2025. Pre-draft consultation notices have issued to neighbouring counties, An Garda Síochána and TII.
	Special Speed Limit in advance of national default for National Secondary Roads	The members were advised at the March meeting of the intention of the LA to prepare a draft special speed limit for consideration to amend the national secondary roads in Carlow the N81 and N80 to 80km/hr in advance of the national default which will propose the same. The draft was put on public display on the 16 <sup>th</sup> of April until Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025. Approval has been sought from TII for the scheme following the consultation process and the matter will be returned to the members for resolution on approval.
<b>Development of an EV Infrastructure Strategy for Region 5 of the Regional and Local Electric Vehicle Strategy</b>	Regional EV Infrastructure Strategy	<p>As part of the Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan 2024-2030, Tipperary County Council as lead authority recently announced the appointment of Ove Arup &amp; Partners Ireland, T/A Arup as the Consultant for the development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy for Region 5.</p> <p>Tipperary County Council as lead authority will develop the strategy in collaboration with the local authorities of Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford.</p> <p>A pre-draft public consultation process was developed by the consultants and was completed during May &amp; June.</p> <p>A draft strategy is being progressed, and it is anticipated that this will be placed on public display in late September, early October.</p>

Noise Mapping	<p>The Environmental Noise Directive is implemented through S.I. No. 549, the European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 as amended. The Directive requires Member States to prepare and publish, every 5 years, strategic noise maps and noise management action plans for transport noise sources (i.e. roads, railways and airports) and industry.</p>	<p>Carlow County Council received their assessment of the Noise Action Plan Annual Report for 2024 as submitted to the EPA in Q1 2025. We are delighted to report that the EPA classified the local authority performance as Strong.</p>
Active Travel	Active Travel Pathfinder - Carlow to SETU Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme	<p>This scheme is being progressed in two phases. Phase 1 runs from Munnelly’s Junction to The Creek Restaurant while Phase 2 runs from The Creek Restaurant to Granby Row Junction. Phase 1 construction commenced in January and the works are substantially complete. The remaining works are currently on hold awaiting the ESB removal of existing poles and overhead lines. It is hoped that the ESB will complete their works in the coming weeks which will allow the overall scheme to be completed shortly after. The Section 38 public consultation process for Phase 2 of the scheme is complete. Following consideration of the submissions received during the public consultation process the Chief Executive of Carlow County Council has decided to proceed with the proposed development, in accordance with the plans and particulars placed on public display, including some minor and immaterial alterations made in response to submissions. The decision of the Chief Executive has been formally recorded in a Chief Executives Order (Traffic Works Order) and published on the Council’s consultation portal and the elected members of the Carlow Municipal District have been informed of the decision. Construction of Phase 2 is expected to commence in the coming weeks.</p>
	Dublin Road Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme, Carlow	<p>The works on the Dublin Road Pedestrian &amp; Cycle Scheme were completed in July and the scheme is now fully operational and working well.</p>
	Hillbrook Estate Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme, Tullow	<p>TST Engineering Ltd. have been appointed to carry out a topographical survey of the proposed works area. The results of this survey are expected to be provided in early September. The survey will then be utilised for the preliminary design of the scheme, which is hoped to be complete by the end of September at which stage the proposals will be published for a 4-week period of public consultation.</p>

	SRTS - Queen of the Universe N.S., Bagenalstown.	The Part 8 Chief Executive's Report was presented to the Members at the Council's July meeting and recommended that the proposed development be proceeded with. Approval was subsequently provided by the Members to proceed with the scheme. The construction tender documents are currently being finalised and are expected to be issued to the market in early September with a view to commencing construction in October.
--	--	---



## Tionscadail Speisialta Forbairt/Special Projects Delivery

Project Name	Key Updates
County Hall Carpark	The Contractor has addressed snag items. All cabling has been installed for the access barriers. One barrier base has been damaged by an errant vehicle, preventing installation of the barrier equipment. Repair is being arranged to facilitate installation of the barrier.
County Building WC	Refurbishment of toilets on hold pending resource availability to complete tender documentation.
County Building Refurbishment of Offices behind Reception Area	Survey of the office completed. Detailed specifications and equipment required being developed.
Bagenalstown Town and Village Public Realm	Bagenalstown Public Realm was officially opened on 5th June. Contractor to return to site to remedy snags.
Historic Structures Fund-Tullow Court House	A periodic inspection report of the existing electrical installation has identified the building needs to be re-wired including new fire alarm and emergency lighting. These re-wiring works will have to be carried out to enable preventative deterioration works to be installed.
Carlow Town – URDF – Rail Link through St. Patrick's College	Tender assessment is complete and the successful tenderer identified. Award of the contract is subject to approval of the Post Tender Gate 3 Final Business Case which is due for submission to the Department at the end of September. It is expected that the works contractor will be appointed and commence construction in Q4, 2025.
Carlow Town – URDF – Town Centre Scheme	Detailed design is ongoing with service clash detection underway to inform the final design. The advance works to the wall for the Barrack Street Link are due to start at the end of September.
Former Bank of Ireland Building	The THRIVE grant application was finalised and submitted. The regional assembly have conducted their first site visit and we await the results of the assessment process.

## Carlow Town Mobility Hubs Project

29 shared mobility hubs have been identified to date. The proposed designs for each location have been reviewed by CCC staff and comments sent to AECOM, working on behalf of the NTA for inclusion in final design proposals. Final proposals will subsequently be progressed through statutory permissions by CCC.



# AN COMHSHAOL AGUS CNÍOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE/ ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE ACTION

## Gearáin/Complaints 2025 Ytd.

Complaint Type	Complaints	Active	Resolved
Litter	282	18	264
Waste	116	21	95
Water Pollution	16	1	15
Noise	16	3	13
Air Pollution	11	2	9
Burning	13	4	9
Sludge/Slurry	7	0	7
Veterinary/Vermin	26	2	24
Glass	1	1	0
Abandoned Cars	54	7	47
Total	542	59	483

## Forfheidhmiú/Enforcement 2025 Ytd

Legislation	Advisory Letter	Warning Letter	Notice	Fines issued
Litter Act	0	0	2	1
Air Pollution Act	6	0	0	0
Water Pollution Act	0	2	4	0
Waste Management Act	3	0	5	0
Environmental Protection Act	0	0	0	0
Total	9	2	11	1

## Cheatharlach/Cill Chainnigh Dídean Madraí / Carlow/Kilkenny Dog Shelter

	2025
Month Beginning	10
Strays	20
Surrenders	4
Totals	34

	2025
Reclaims	7
Re-homed by Shelter	2
Directed to Rescue	16
PTS (specify reason)	0
End of Month	9
Totals	34

## Madraí a Rialú/Control of Dogs 2025 Ytd.

Section A	2025
Licences purchased following Dog Warden visit	192
Annual Licences purchased	611
No. of Dog Breeding Establishments registered	10

## Cigireachtaí Feirme/Farm Inspections 2025 Ytd.

Section A	
National Agricultural Inspection Programme NAIP - Initial	32
Follow up Inspections	2
Total	34

## Climate Action

The Community Climate officer continues to work with groups awarded funding in 2024. It has been announced that a second round of funding will be made available for the 2025-2026 period. Carlow County Council in partnership with the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment will offer local groups to apply for funding to support their climate works. Funding is expected to be similar to round 1 with slight amendments to the application process. Further announcement and an official launch date will be confirmed by DCEE in September.

## Community Circular Economy Research Project

The Environment Department successfully secured funding through the National Anti-Dumping Initiative to implement a locally driven community circular economy project. This initiative aims to establish sustainable, closed-loop systems within the region.

The project includes the engagement of a specialist consultant to carry out a research project to achieve the following objectives.

1. Establish a baseline of circular economy / up-cycling activity in Carlow, including who is involved, what is being done, where it is happening, and how it is resourced.
2. Identify best practices in community that are effective and sustainable.
3. Explore public perceptions and understanding of the circular economy.
4. Assess opportunities and barriers to expanding circular activities in communities.
5. Recommend strategies and actions to support, develop, and circular living across Carlow.



The consultancy contract was awarded to O’Keeffe Social Research and information gathering has commenced. The project supports Carlow County Council’s goals under Carlow County Council Climate Action plan, County Development Plan and LECP.

### WEEE drop off and recycling events.

The Environment Department in partnership with WEEE Ireland offered local households and businesses an opportunity to dispose of any old electrical items in 6 locations over the month of July, over 34,000kg was collected as follows:

Date	Location	WEEE (kg)	Batteries (kg)	Total (kg )
28/06/25	Tullow Mart	14,605	547	15,152
1/7/25	Bagenalstown	2,612	13	2,625
3/7/25	Hacketstown FS	5,224	51	5,275
8/7/25	Borris Mart	4,591	709	5,300
10/07/25	Carlow Mart	6,163	186	6,349
		33,195	1,506	34,701

### GAA Green Club Programme

The Green Club Programme was established to support Gaelic Games clubs in taking simple and effective sustainability action in their grounds and activities. The Programme is structured around the themes of Energy, Water, Waste, Biodiversity and Travel & Transport and is designed to promote sustainability awareness and action in GAA clubs and communities.

The following GAA Clubs have been successful in their application to participate in the National GAA Green Clubs Programme.

- Eire Og
- Grange
- Kildavin/Clonegal
- Mt. Leinster Rangers
- Naomh Bríd
- Palatine
- St Patricks
- Carlow Town Hurling and Camogie Club

Clubs will be assisted in their projects by the Environment Team at Carlow County Council.

### Carlow’s Farming for Nature Celebration:

Four Carlow Farming Families (Eric & Catherine Osborne, Rathanna, Leonie Baldwin & Andrew Llyod, Knockroe, Richard & Geraldine Brennan, Leighlinbridge, and Michael & Margaret Purcell, Lacken) have been shortlisted as candidates for the national Farming for Nature Ambassadors Network.

They have been shortlisted following collaboration between Carlow County Council, Carlow IFA, Carlow ICA, Teagasc, ACRES, NPWS, and partner organisations operating in the county, with the intention of having a Carlow representative in the National Farming for Nature Ambassador Awards in 2026.

A celebration event took place in Myshall Community Hall, on Saturday, August 16th, as part of National Heritage Week, funded by NPWS under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund, as an Action of the Carlow Biodiversity Action Plan.



**Gum Litter Task Force**

On 30<sup>th</sup> July the Gum Litter Taskforce brought their roadshow to the exchange in Carlow Town. GLT is a national initiative that collaborates with local authorities to tackle chewing gum litter through educational campaigns, public awareness initiatives, and support for sustainable solutions. The team met with members and staff of Carlow County Council as well as the volunteers of Carlow Tidy Towns. The GLT spent the day engaging with members of the public through interactive games educating them on the dangers of disposing of gum incorrectly.

**Master Composting and Food Waste Workshops**

Funded by the Waste Enforcement Lead Authorities under the Anti-Dumping Initiative, July and August saw a very successful two-month Master Composting programme that took place during the summer, with 22 volunteers representing eleven groups from around the county. Facilitated by Composting Ireland, they attended stop food waste, and how to compost workshops on Tuesday evenings throughout July, culminating in Master Composter community hands on site builds in seven communities around the County.

**Green Flag for Schools**

As schools return after the summer break, the Environmental Awareness Officer visited Tyndall College and spoke with all the teachers, to encourage teachers to incorporate waste issues in their curricula through the global citizenship litter and waste programme.

**Clothes Swap**

Carlow County Council clothes swap kit continues to be in demand with several community groups using the facility during July and August.

**Conradh Lathair Dramhaíola/Waste Facility Permit 2025 Ytd.**

	Ytd
Applications Received	0
Applications Granted	2
Applications Refused	0
Total	2

**Environmental Awareness**

**Anti-Dumping Initiative 2025**

Carlow County Council carried out a Mattress Amnesty and Bulky Waste drop off in our Powerstown Civic Amenity Site in the Month of August.

The Mattress Amnesty took place from the 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> of August with over 600 mattresses collected throughout the week. There was a charge of €5 per mattress and the results show this was a very worthwhile event.

The Bulky Waste drop off took place from the 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> of August with over 70 tonnes of material collected across the 5 days. Each vehicle was charged €5 to enter with no restriction on the amount of material they brought and again this was a very successful event.

Over the past 2 months Carlow Environmental Department have also carried out 2 huge cleanups in the Tullow and Rathvilly areas under the ADI scheme.

A total of 51 tonnes of rubbish and waste material was removed from St Patricks Park, Tullow to our Civic Amenity Site in Powerstown.

In Michael Collins Estate, Rathvilly, a further 26 tonnes of material was removed from behind the properties as a result of illegal dumping in the area



## SEIRBHÍSÍ ÉIGEANDÁLA AGUS RIALÚ FORGNAÍOCHTA/ EMERGENCY SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL

	Jul/Aug 25	YTD
Fire Safety Certificates	4	29
Building Control Inspections	13	38
Disability Access Certificates	3	14
Commencement Notices	14	108

No. of Fire Call outs per Station	Jul/Aug 25	YTD
Bagenalstown	26	120
Carlow Town	68	291
Hacketstown	11	33
Tullow	25	120

No. of Fires within Areas	Jul/Aug 25	YTD
Carlow	30	160
Adjoining Counties	9	19

Special Services: Jul/Aug - 25	Number
Entrapment	1
Gas/Chemicals	0
Hazardous Substances in Transit	0
Hazardous Substances Non-Fire	0
Rescue from Machinery	0
Miscellaneous	9
Other Rescue	7
Rescue/Removal of Persons from Water	0
Road Traffic Accident	16
Water Pumping/Flooding	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>
False Alarms: Jul/Aug - 25	Number
Malicious	1
Good Intent	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

## Capital Projects

Approval has been granted by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management for additional funding and to proceed to appoint the design team. The tendering process has been completed; the successful tender has accepted the appointment as the Design Team during this period. The refurbishment of Muinebheag Fire Station has now progressed to full design and initial design meetings have been held between the County Fire Service and the Architect led design team.

Approval has been granted by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management and Capital Funding has been allocated to County Carlow for further development works at the Hacketstown Training & Development Centre to replace a 20-year-old changing/welfare unit, procure a new Training Tower with working at heights facility and to develop one of the Breathing Apparatus units. The tendering process has been completed and awarded to the successful tenders.

Approval has been granted by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management and Capital Funding has been allocated to County Carlow for the purchase of a combined Hi-Ab Crane and Prime Mover vehicle. This vehicle has now been received by HPMP Tullow for Fire Service fit out during this period. This vehicle has commenced fit out, will be fuelled by HVO and will replace two old heavy diesel vehicles, a Hi-Ab Crane flatbed and a Prime Mover HGV contributing to reduction in CO2 emissions as per the Councils Climate Action Plan.

Approval has been granted by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management and Capital Funding has been allocated to County Carlow for 750 optical smoke alarms and 10 hard of hearing accessory with RF interconnect and 10-year battery powered with interconnect optical smoke alarms for 2025/26 scheme and to support the Community Fire Safety Initiatives.

## Operations

Carlow County Fire & Rescue Service has been selected to provide a trauma challenge team to represent Ireland in the World Rescue Challenge in Croatia. The two firefighters from Carlow Fire Station have commenced training and preparations for the event which will be staged in September 2025.

The County Fire Service has commenced a new initiative in this period. Each fire station is developing an urban fire station garden focussing on biodiversity, sustainability, and the circular economy. These gardens will be multi-purpose, used as an area for firefighters to decompress post attendance to traumatic incidents, an area for HQ staff to take their daily breaks, an area to compost compostable waste from fire stations, to grow fruit and vegetables for staff and to include in Community Fire Safety visits promoting how the modern-day County Fire Service is supporting biodiversity and sustainability in our urban areas and communities.

All gardens will feature upcycled fire service equipment and upcycled fire service vehicle parts destined for landfill disposal to create various features. The County Fire Service plan to engage with local community groups and schools to encourage their involvement and input into each space.

Carlow County Fire & Rescue Service was asked by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management to represent the Irish fire service for all media queries in relation to the release of the 2024 national fire statistics. Interviews were provided at the RTE studios for Morning Ireland followed by an interview with Newstalk which also featured on the local media outlet KCLR too.

In May 2025 the County Fire Service submitted two projects for consideration under the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2025 along with other sections of the council. The projects put forward included the ECO Class Fire Appliance under the Sustainable & Biodiversity category and the Fire Appliance Vehicle to Vehicle Digital Alerting under the Local Authority Innovation category. We have been informed during this period that both project submissions have been successful and shortlisted for the awards presented in November 2025.

### **Community Fire Safety**

Carlow County Fire & Rescue Service continued to roll out Community Fire Safety initiatives during Jul/Aug. Firefighters from across the County completed further Home Fire Safety Visits, offering fire safety advice to homeowners and installing smoke detectors in homes where there were none present or where additional detectors are required due to the layout or complexity of the home.

The County Fire Service also attended the Tullow Agricultural Show during this period and provided a Community Fire Safety stand engaging with and educating the public regarding home fire safety. The stand also received a visit from Tánaiste Simon Harris. The County Fire Service also carried out live Chip Pan fire demonstrations providing awareness of cooking appliance fire risks in the home.

Carlow County Fire & Rescue Service worked in collaboration with the Carlow Older Persons Council, other sections of the Local Authority, Community Groups and the Gardai by hosting coffee mornings at Hacketstown & Tullow Fire Stations. This gave an opportunity to meet local firefighters and provide Community Fire Safety education to attendees at both events showcasing our fire stations.

The County Fire Service also attended a Farm Safety event organised by the Carlow IFA branch to provide Community Fire Safety education to attendees again finding innovative and collaborative opportunities to engage and promote home fire safety.

### **Hacketstown Training & Development Centre**

13 Firefighters from Wexford, Westmeath, Longford, Kildare and Leitrim County Fire Services completed the QQI Using Breathing Apparatus (BA) Initial Course, while 14 Firefighters from the Irish Air Corps also completed their Breathing Apparatus initial course at the Hacketstown Training & Development Centre during this period.

During the first 7 months of 2025 the training centre delivered 218 days of training including QQI Firefighting Skills courses, QQI BA initial courses, QQI CFBT initial courses, BA refresher and Compartment Fire Behaviour (CFB) refresher courses, Cardiac and Emergency First Responder courses and a NDFEM CFB instructor course. Over 650 firefighters from across Ireland have been trained in the Hacketstown Training Centre during this period.

During August the training centre closed for essential maintenance and reopens September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 and is fully booked until December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



# AN RANNÓG TITHÍOCHTA/ HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Total Housing Stock	2127
Social Housing Applications	43/453 YTD
Total HAP Tenancies	541
New HAP 2025	35
Transfer Applications	15/42 YTD
Anti-Social Behaviour Complaints	15/83 YTD
Housing Maintenance Calls Logged	423/1917 YTD
CAS Acquisitions (Sale Closed)	2 YTD
SHIP Acquisitions (Sale Closed)	0
New Allocations	47/108 YTD

## Iasacht Tí Údaráis Áitiúil//Local Authority Home Loan Update 29th August 2025      Year to date

No. of Loan Offer drawdowns including partial drawdown	1	6.3
Final Loan Approvals	0	3
No. of AIPs Issued	0	6
No. of LAHL Received	2	10
Value of Drawdown	6.3	€1,045,100.00

## Líon na nIarratas ar Dheontais Cheadaithe/ No. Approved Grant Applications

	*Total applications approved at 29/08/2025	Number of valid applications under consideration at 29/08/2025	Total number of applications on hand at 29/08/2025
Housing Aid for Older People	143	28	171
Housing Adaption Grant for People with a Disability	30	23	53
Mobility Aid	7	3	10
Total	180	54	234

\*Includes applications received in 2024

Location	No. of Units	Status	Delivery Date
<b>CARLOW MD</b>			
Barrack St, Carlow	8	On Site	2025
The Numbers (Tintean)	18	Completed Allocation process has commenced.	2025
Friar's Green (Part V)	1	On Site	2025
Cois Dara (Phase 3) – Part V	15	On Site	2025
Kennedy Street (CPO)	3/4	Design Team appointed, site surveys being completed	2026
12 Burrin Street (CPO)	3	Design Team to be appointed	2026
Montgomery Street (Cluid)	26	On Site	2026
St Endas, Graiguecullen	4	Pre Part VIII	2026/27
Tanner Hall	49	Funding application being prepared for submission to department.	2026/2027
<b>TULLOW MD</b>			
Tullowbeg (CHI)	48	On Site	2026
Thomas Traynor Road, Tullow	21	On Site	2025
Main Street Hacketstown (CPO)	1	On Site	2025
An Cúirt, Hacketstown	12	Pre Part VIII	2026
<b>BAGENALSTOWN MD</b>			
Bilboa	3	On Site	2025
Upper Main Street Borris	2	On Site	2025
Green Drake, Borris (AHB – Tintean)	17	On site	2025

## Mionscrúdú a dhéanamh ar na Tithe/Housing Inspections

Category of Property	No. of initial inspections	Compliant	Non-compliant	No. of second inspections	Compliant	Non-compliant	Enforcement proceedings
Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	46	2	44	35	3	32	0
Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	9	3	6	4	3	1	0
Private Rented Dwellings (PRTB)	1	0	1	29	12	17	0
Complaints	6	0	6	4	1	3	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>

## Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Dídean / Homeless Services

<i>Temporary Emergency Accommodation</i>			
	Adult	Children	Total
De Paul Accommodation	16	0	16
Additional Emergency Accommodation	20	8	28
<b>Total in Emergency Accommodation</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>44</b>
<i>Homeless Presentations – March</i>			
<b>Total Presentations</b>	31 Adults & 10 Children		
<b>Prevention/not placed</b>	27 Adults & 10 Children		

<i>Own Front Door (OFD) – Supported Accommodation</i>			
	Adult	Children	Total
KVHA	41	23	64
Refuge/Safehouse	3	5	8
Focus Ireland	4	10	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>86</b>

### Capacity – Temporary Emergency Accommodation

*Note: The position as outlined below is relevant to a particular date and is subject to change.*

- 2 vacancies in Barrow Place on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025
- 5 vacancies in Charlotte Rooms on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025.



## TACAÍOCHT CHOMHTHÁTHAITHE / INTEGRATION SUPPORT

### Offer A Home

There are currently 50 properties allocated under this scheme, housing 146 Ukrainian persons who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP's).

### Integration Support

During the months of July and August, 6 clinics took place bringing the total number of clinics carried out during 2025 to 42 across Beneficiary of Temporary Protection (BOTP) Accommodation Centres, International Protection Applicant (IPA) Accommodation Centres and the wider community.

Adult Literacy training for Carlow/Kilkenny LAIT staff was delivered by Kilkenny Carlow ETB (KCETB) to help identify and support the literacy needs of new arrivals.

### Information Sessions

1. Garda Talks - Garda talks continued to take place across IPAS Accommodation Centres on hate crime, violence and aggression and road safety were discussed.
2. Fire Safety Talks – Fire safety talks have commenced in IPAS Accommodation Centres on fire safety in the home.





## AN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT AIRGEADAIS/FINANCE DIRECTORATE

Financial Management Report - Period Ended 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2025				
	Opening Bal. 01/01/25	Expenditure	Income	Closing Bal. 30/06/25
Revenue Account	-997,435	35,179,724	-35,384,206	-1,201,918
Capital Account	-49,772,404	26,928,147	-25,594,227	-48,438,484
Debtors (Gross)	21,155,715			34,112,864

## MÓTARCHÁIN/ MOTOR TAX

Motor Tax Transactions Month Ended	July 2025	Year To Date
In Person Motor Tax Transactions	1465	8.851
Online Motor Tax Transactions	6.223	41,644
<b>Total Transactions</b>	<b>7,688</b>	<b>50,495</b>
<i>Percentage of Online Transactions</i>	<i>80.94%</i>	<i>82.47%</i>



# POBAL, ÁINEAS, TAITNEMHACHT AGUS SPÓIRT / COMMUNITY, RECREATION, AMENITY & SPORTS

Discretionary Funding processed	29
Environmental Grants Issued	17
Local Enhancement Programme Grants Issued	12
PPN Information Hub	887
Sports Partnership Payments Processed	150
Sports Partnership Training Courses/Workshops/Events	24
Sports Partnership Training Courses/Workshop/Events Participants	1075
Sports Partnership Media Metrics	106,249 views
Community Engagement (meetings/events)	24
Training and Workshops	7

Carlow LCDC	<p>The LCDC meeting took place on 29th July 2025.</p> <p>The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) Mid-Year Review was approved by the LCDC meeting by the completion deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2025.</p> <p>The Chief Officer gave a presentation on improvements to accessibility and inclusivity in public spaces under specific actions in Local Economic and Community Plan.</p> <p>Updates were provided to the LCDC Members on the Multi-Cultural Strategy, Healthy Ireland and the Public Participation Network.</p>
Carlow LAG	<p>The LAG meeting took place on 29th July 2025.</p> <p>Five Expressions of Interest and one project were brought to the Committee Members for approval.</p>
Carlow Local Sports Partnership	<p>The launch of the <b>Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan for County Carlow</b> was a true highlight of August, marking a significant step forward for sport and physical activity in the county. The occasion also unveiled the <b>Active Carlow Strategic Plan</b>, the first strategic framework under the Local Sports Partnership's new identity, <i>Active Carlow</i>.</p> <p>Together, these two documents represent both vision and action: the Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan sets out a clear pathway for enhancing participation and wellbeing across the county, while the Active Carlow Strategic Plan outlines how these ambitions will be delivered in practical and measurable ways. The dual launch not only reflected a proud milestone for the partnership but also signified the beginning of a new chapter,</p>

	<p>rooted in collaboration, inclusivity, and a shared commitment to building a healthier, more active Carlow.</p> <p><b>Programme Highlights</b></p> <p><b>Outdoor Adventure &amp; Wellbeing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Women’s Hikes</i> (Lugnaquilla &amp; Comeragh Mountains) engaged 39 participants in mountain hiking.</li><li><i>Her Outdoors Week</i> (kayaking, SUP &amp; yoga, Pilates, pole walking, and cycling) reached over 90 participants, encouraging adventurous and social outdoor activity.</li><li><i>Lowland Wanders</i> attracted 15 participants on the Coolmelagh/Gibbet Hill Loop, offering a more accessible hiking option.</li></ul> <p><b>Youth &amp; Camps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Learn to Cycle Camps and Inclusive Swimming</i> involved 86 children and young people, learning a life skills in both Carlow and Bagenalstown.</li><li><i>Inclusive Multiactivity, Rugby, Cúl Camp and FAI Football for All</i> camps reached a combined 112 participants, emphasising fun, participation, and inclusion in sport.</li></ul> <p><b>Community Festivals &amp; Walks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>The Columban Way Walk 2025</i> brought together around 250 walkers from across Ireland and Europe, highlighting Carlow’s role in heritage walking tourism.</li><li><i>Heritage Week Walk</i> (25 participants) and <i>Heritage Week Old School Games – Drummond Bridge</i> (40 participants) combined cultural heritage with physical activity.</li></ul> <p><b>Inclusion &amp; Accessibility:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Inclusive Swimming and Multi-Activity Camps</i> supported 42 young people with additional needs, collaborating with National Governing Bodies including Hockey Ireland and the FAI.</li></ul> <p><b>Training &amp; Capacity Building:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Safeguarding 1 Training</i> (14 participants) strengthened the safeguarding knowledge of club officers and volunteers.</li></ul> <p><b>Family &amp; Community Engagement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Playday – Build &amp; Fly Your Own Kite</i> provided a family-centred event with hands-on creativity, attracting over 350 children.</li></ul>
Community Development Officer	<p><b>Pride of Place</b></p> <p>IPB Pride of Place, in association with Co-operation Ireland, is an</p>

Report	<p>all-island competition that acknowledges the work that communities are doing all over the island of Ireland. The competitions focus is on people coming together to shape, change, and improve daily lives in their communities. The competition is based on communities demonstrating to judges their “pride in their place” by oral presentations where they highlight community activities, culture, and many other aspects that contribute to their pride of place. It is also important that the community demonstrates a real partnership with their Local Authority and shows that all sectors of the community are included.</p> <p>Two National Pride of Place Judges came to Carlow on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July to meet with two of the four nominees made by Carlow County Council. Carlow Town was judged in the Large Town category and the Cairdeas Centre, Tullow was judged in the Inclusive Community category.</p> <p>Rathanna Village was assessed in the village under 300 population category and Carlow Regional Youth Services presented the Community Roots Programme in the Community Youth Initiative Category on 13<sup>th</sup> June.</p> <p>The results are expected at an event in Limerick in November.</p> <p><b>Community Get Togethers</b></p> <p>Community Get Togethers continue to be held across the county. Communities receive a pack, containing posters, invitations and bunting for an event to provide communities with the opportunity to come together to talk about their community and promote engagement and inclusion. These Community Get Togethers provide Community Organisations a real chance to discuss succession planning. 48 applications were received for these Community Get Togethers this year, a 200% increase on 2024. The Community Section and Healthy Ireland through a cross collaboration are supporting the delivery of 29 Community Get Togethers in 2025.</p>
Healthy Carlow	<p>All Healthy Ireland delivery partners are working on their agreed programme of activity for 2025 and are on track with same. My Garden, My Fork, Swimmin Women, Relaxing Art for Adults, Get Connected, Yoga and Yap, Fit to Farm, Forever Fit, Walk and Talk with Delta, He Swims, Men’s Shed Physical Activity Programme, Wednesday Wanderers, Tullow Multi Cultural Supper Club, Men’s Cookery, Singing for Wellbeing, Social Farming, Playday, have been delivered with further programmes commencing in September.</p> <p>Healthy Carlow will see a Round 4 extension to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026 with an indicative budget of €75,000 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026-31<sup>st</sup> December 2026.</p> <p>The Healthy Carlow Coordinator is working on a number of collaborative projects including, Community Get Togethers, Intimate Image Sharing, Carlow Drug Awareness Campaign, Not Around Us and Carlow Period Dignity.</p> <p><b>Not Around Us</b> is now live on carlow.ie and a social media push is planned to launch in September including the video clips designed as part of the promotion campaign.</p> <p><b>Carlow Period Dignity</b> is now providing free dispensers in two</p>

	<p>new locations; Carlow Youth Training and Carlow Emergency Accommodation Centre. Work is underway in partnership with CRYs for a creative youth campaign highlighting period poverty. Plans are underway to design a <b>Carlow Drug Awareness Campaign</b> targeting 12-16 year olds re early intervention, prevention, education, awareness raising. Healthy Carlow and Carlow Local Community Safety Partnership are working with CRYs CBI team and Comhairle na nOg to design and deliver this in 2025. Healthy Carlow has secured funding through CYPSC of €5000 towards the Carlow Drug Awareness Campaign.</p> <p><b>Carlow Farmer Wellbeing.</b> Funding secured of €12,300 for Farm Health Safety and Wellbeing through the Department of Agriculture. Farmer Wellbeing events will run in Tullow Mart on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Leinster Mart on the Killeslin Road on October 30<sup>th</sup> in partnership with Teagasc and the Marts. This will be the second year of this initiative targeting wellbeing for the Carlow farming community.</p>
Age Friendly Carlow	<p><b>Age Friendly Strategy</b></p> <p>The Strategy is now in its final editing and design phase. Linkage Consultancy is preparing the publication for submission to CCC in September. Planning is underway for a high-profile launch during Positive Ageing Week (29 Sept–3 Oct) or at the OPC AGM in November.</p> <p><b>Older People’s Council (OPC)</b></p> <p>The OPC Executive has now met eight times this year, maintaining strong focus on governance, membership development, and delivery of strategy actions. In July, the OPC partnered with Carlow Fire Service to deliver its first local information roadshow in Hacketstown, with planning advanced for the August event in Tullow.</p> <p><b>Positive Ageing Week 2025</b></p> <p>Preparation continues for the Living Well Expo, a flagship event for Positive Ageing Week. Delivered in partnership with the Healthy Carlow Coordinator and Carlow County Council Community Development, the Expo will showcase opportunities for connection, well-being, and lifelong learning, while also mapping local services for people aged 55+.</p> <p><b>Community Roadshows</b></p> <p>The OPC–Fire Service roadshow series commenced in July:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Hacketstown</b> – 15th July, Fire Station (well-attended, positive engagement).</li><li>• <b>Tullow</b> – 26th August, Fire Station (well-attended, positive engagement).</li><li>• <b>Bagenalstown</b> – scheduled for 18th November.</li></ul>

	<p>This programme strengthens rural outreach, increases visibility of Council services, and enhances connections with older people across the county.</p> <p><b>National Awards Recognition</b></p> <p>Carlow’s Age Friendly programme has been shortlisted for the <b>2025 National Age Friendly Recognition &amp; Achievement Awards</b>, which will take place on Thursday, 23rd October in the Galmont Hotel, Galway City. Carlow has been recognised in two categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Communications Award</b> – <i>Carlow Older People’s Council Information Hub</i></li><li>2. <b>Age Friendly Community Innovation Award</b> – <i>CCDP Together We Are Stronger</i></li></ol> <p>This national recognition highlights the innovation and impact of Carlow’s initiatives, celebrating the county’s contribution to improving the lives of older people.</p> <p><b>Funding</b></p> <p>Administration work was completed in liaison with government departments and key local agencies to support funding processes. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Six-month reporting</b> to enable drawdown of funding for <i>Comhairle na nÓg</i> and the <i>Carlow Traveller Interagency Committee</i>.</li><li>• <b>Final reporting</b> for <i>Africa Day</i>.</li></ul> <p>These submissions ensure continuity of funding streams and accountability for programme delivery.</p>
Carlow PPN	<p><b>Organizational Development and Governance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>PPN Membership:</b> Carlow PPN membership is currently 321 groups</li><li>• <b>DRCDG Annual Report:</b> Carlow PPN submission completed and submitted to DRCDG National PPN Report</li></ul> <p><b>Capacity Building, Representation, Training:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Carmichael: Setting up and running a small non-profit Organisation Modules 1 and 2</li><li>• In House: An Introduction to Artificial Intelligence for Community Groups – 14 groups attended</li><li>• Planning meeting for Carlow PPN member groups re: Dementia Inclusive training</li></ul>

	<p><b>Community Engagement and Consultations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted welcome and induction for new PPN member groups at An Gairdin Beo</li> <li>• Attended Older People's Council Information Roadshow Hacketstown</li> <li>• DRCDG: PPN submission to the <i>Stakeholder Consultation on a new Strategy to support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland</i>. Copy attached</li> <li>• Participated in Submission to DRCDG 'Our Rural Future' Public Consultation</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy and Strategic Collaboration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Healthy Carlow:</b> Continued collaboration with the Healthy Carlow initiative to promote physical and mental wellbeing across the county</li> </ul> <p><b>Local, Regional and National PPN Engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National PPN in person meeting: Coordinating PPNs for 'Building Community Resilience in Times of Emergencies and Storms Emergency Response' planning</li> <li>• <b>SEAI/SEC 10-Year Anniversary</b> - Celebrating achievements of the Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) programme</li> <li>• Southeast Region PPN meeting planning for PPN Representatives event in Kilkenny 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025</li> </ul> <p><b>Communications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-bulletins sent 521</li> <li>• Special notices sent 366</li> <li>• Facebook: no of posts placed 56 posts. 2,550 Total followers</li> </ul> <p>Instagram: no of posts 35 posts. 919 followers. Twitter(X): 1033 Followers</p>
<p><b>Community Capital Projects</b></p>	<p><b>Tullow Road Multi-Functional Community Hub</b> Construction commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The project is progressing well with the majority of groundworks complete and the structural steel frame near completion.</p> <p><b>CLÁR</b> Six applications for the 2025 scheme have been submitted for projects worth €192,650.00. Awaiting departmental approval.</p> <p><b>Carlow Town Water Activity Hub</b> The project is currently progressing through the formal approval process. At present, we are awaiting departmental approval for Stage 1 of the development. This approval is a prerequisite for advancing to the detailed design phase.</p> <p>Once Stage 1 approval is received, the project team will initiate the detailed design stage, which will define the technical specifications, layout, and operational elements of the Water Activity Hub.</p>



### Ducketts Grove – Outdoor Amenity Area

A Conservation Architectural Report is currently being prepared to assess and guide the proposed installation of an outdoor amenity structure at Ducketts Grove. This report will ensure that the design and placement of the structure align with the site's heritage value and conservation requirements.

The completion of this report is a critical step in progressing the project, as it will inform planning, materials selection, and integration with the existing landscape and architectural context. Compliance with conservation best practices remain central to the development process.

### ORIS

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025, the Department announced a significant funding allocation of €8.7 million under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS).

Carlow County Council were approved two projects under Measure 1: Enhancement Works at Clogrennane Woods and Borris Village Looped Walk Phase 2 and one project under the Project Development Measure: Nine Stones Feasibility Study.

Further announcements regarding **Measure 2** and **Measure 3** of the Scheme are expected later this year.





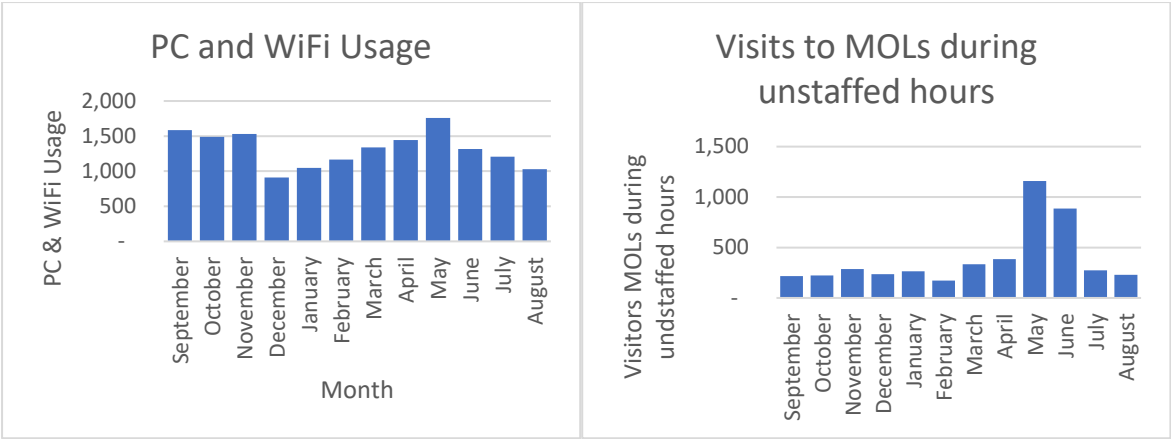
# AN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT CULTÚR DIRECTORATE

## LEABHARLAN CONTAE CHEATHARLACH/CARLOW COUNTY LIBRARY

### Statistics and performance

- 43 in person visits to the Local Studies department, 235 Local Studies and Genealogy enquiries
- Library App accessed 1406 times on 127 different devices
- 2099 eBooks, 4219 eAudiobooks, 11,849 eMagazines and eNewspapers downloaded
- Eduroam Access – 16,668 requests from 1789 devices
- Library X account – 3140 followers
- Instagram -1,485 followers
- Facebook Page – 5527 followers and 4604 likes
- BlueSky has 40 followers





Group visits and Events:

Adult Engagement/Events	71 groups/meetings/events/workshops
Children’s Engagement/Events	31 groups/events
Book Clubs	4 Adult Book Club Meetings

Film Screening:

The recent release “A Sip of Irish” was screened in the Shaw Room of Carlow Library on Friday 1st August. This film is a cinematic toast to Ireland’s culinary and drinks legacy and is produced by Carlow-born Frank Mannion.

Heritage Week:

The Heritage Week programme was launched in Carlow Library on Tuesday 29th July, by Cathaoirleach, Ken Murnane. This event was facilitated by Carlow County Council Heritage Officer, Eoin Sullivan and attended by County Carlow Heritage Week Event Organisers and local public representatives.

A broad programme of events took place across all library branches to celebrate Heritage Week in August with over 150 children attending. Events included:

- Song & Storytime for Children with Wibbly Wobbly Wendy and Alison Behan
- A Liga Valge Clay Modelling Workshop for children aged 9 to 12
- Art of Felting Workshops with Artist, Jean Robertson of Browneshill Studio
- A Myths & Legends Creative Writing Workshop with Author Caroline Busher
- Learn the art of Crochet with My Big Fat Hat
- Willow Wonder Workshops, creating 2D willow animals
- Old Fashioned Butter and Jam Making Workshops

And for the adults:

- Well & Wellbeing – Talk on the Hydrogeology of Holy Wells for Adults
- Swimming Upstream – Tales of An Estuary Boatman (Patsy Peril Author)

### **Borris Meeting Room:**

- 4 Chair Yoga with Alyth
- 8 Failte Isteach workshops
- 4 Borris Lace workshops
- 4 Crafty Crew sessions
- 1 Tidy Towns Meeting
- 1 Focus Centre Meeting
- 1 Borris Lace Meeting with Cynthia Ní Mhurchú, MEP

## **Services and Developments**

### **Healthy Ireland at your Library:**

As part of the Healthy Ireland at your Library programme, a five-week programme of weekly Chair Yoga classes commenced in both Borris & Carlow Libraries in July.

A five-week series of free Parenting Workshops delivered by HSE Primary Care & Child Psychology Services commenced in Carlow Library on Tuesday 22nd July, covering topics such as Parenting Positively, Parenting in the Digital Age, Managing Strong Emotions and Anxiety Management.

### **Right to Read:**

Almost 800 children have taken part in our annual Summer Stars Reading Challenge, the national initiative to encourage children to read over the Summer. There were weekly draws for prizes of book tokens and a mega prize draw for all participants will take place soon. Activities and events included Summer Stars Clay Modelling Workshops and Wibbly Wobbly Wendy sessions.

The Little Library Book Bag initiative continued throughout the summer and will run right through to October. Over 300 children have collected their bags already and bags are available from any library. They contain books and resources to support the transition from pre-school to primary education and there's one for every child starting school this autumn.

### **Skills for Life:**

Skills for Life is a new nationwide initiative for public libraries. It aims to empower individuals at all stages in their lives to develop and maintain essential skills needed to navigate the changing world successfully.

The first event focused on media literacy. *Navigating information in an increasingly online world* was presented by Jack McCarron of RTE. Jack gave some practical recommendations on how to be more media-literate and be able to critically evaluate content across various media platforms.

### **Public Consultations:**

A series of public Arts Plan Consultations were held in all Carlow Library branches during the month of July. Information gathered will inform the new Strategic Arts Plan for Carlow.

### Writer in Residence:

A six-week Creative Writing Course with new Writer in Residence, Caroline Busher commenced in Carlow Library on Thursday 10th July. This is a collaboration between Carlow Library Service and Carlow Arts Office and benefits beginners and intermediate writers.

### Library Newsletter:

Our first newsletter of 2025 was prepared and designed in-house and circulated recently. This covers information on library development, events and activities from January to June.

### Building improvements:

We continued to maintain and upgrade our library buildings over the summer with works including - installation of new signage in Borris, exterior painting works in Muinebheag and Carlow, and a seasonal landscaping programme in Borris and Muinebheag.



## AN TSEIRBHÍS EALAÍON/ARTS SERVICE

### Arts Service:

Carlow Arts Office has now completed the public consultation phase of developing the new Strategic Arts Plan.

During July and August, Carlow Arts Office visited library locations around the county providing opportunities for artists, community groups and members of the public to come and have their say on what key strategic developments should be included in the new plan. Arts Office staff will now work alongside facilitator, Rowena Neville to develop a draft strategy plan which will encompass a holistic vision for the county and all its citizens.

### Culture Night:

The programme for Culture Night in Carlow was officially launched by Leas-Cathaoirleach Cllr. Daniel Pender in Café Moka on 21st August. Carlow will host **33 free events** across the county for Culture Night 2025 which takes place on 19th September. Full details are available on [culturenight.ie](http://culturenight.ie)

### Carlow Writer in Residence Programme

Carlow Writer in Residence, Caroline Busher continues her weekly workshops where participants learn the importance of setting, characterisation, plot, dialogue and how to build tension in writing. These workshops will culminate in an event on Culture Night where local writers will share their work.

### Carlow Live and Local

The Carlow Live and Local programme continued in July with the second of the concert series taking place in Bagenalstown on Sat 5th July. The performers were Mad for Trad

Carlow, Hugsie, Johnny Walsh, and Ciara Olivia. Follow 'Carlow Live and Local Music Festival' on socials for details on upcoming concerts.

### Live Music in Residential Care Home Settings

*Carlow Rambling Sessions* continued their tour of residential care home settings this month, bringing their live show to Borris Lodge, St. Lazerian's House, Signacare Killerig, Sonas Tullow, St. Fiacc's House, Beechwood Leighlinbridge, and Bethany House. Performers included Maksym Lozovyi, Alison Behan-Lee, and Mad for Trad Carlow. Their next visits will be on 6th of September where they will commence their second leg of the tour in Sacred Heart and Hillview.

### Creative Ireland

Through the bursary support of Creative Ireland in collaboration with Belfast TradFest, three young talented Carlow musicians attended the **Belfast Summer School of Traditional Music**, Ireland's fastest growing summer school of traditional music, which took place from 27 July – 3 August 2025 at Ulster University. This week-long immersive program allowed students to learn from world-class musicians, participate in workshops, perform at iconic venues like Belfast Cathedral, and build lifelong connections within the traditional music community. Creative Ireland Carlow funding this bursary removed the financial barriers which too often stand in the way of invaluable experiences like this for young musicians.

Through the **Creative Ireland Shared Island Funding Scheme**, Carlow in collaboration with Carlow Tourism secured **€20,000** in funding for the St Columbanus Weekend Programme. The project brought significant social, cultural and economic benefits to a wide range of community groups, individuals and organisations involved in its planning and delivery. The project fostered a deep sense of local pride and connection to Carlow's spiritual and cultural heritage amongst all partners, who played a central role in hosting events, welcoming international guests and showcasing the area's historical significance as the birthplace of Saint Columbanus.

Over the weekend of the event, Carlow welcomed guests from France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Northern Ireland and from many counties across Ireland. The event ensured that Carlow and Myshall have firmly taken their place alongside Bobbio, Bangor and Luxeuil as one of the key locations in the story of St. Columbanus. Visitors from Germany and France stated that it was *'One highlight after another!'*

### Creative Places Bagenalstown

Creative Places Bagenalstown continue to strengthen their collaboration with support for The Glimmers from **BEAM Services Community** as part of Commune 25 with Muine Bheag Arts Programme. The work examined how the creative process of writing music and singing can be used as a tool for building community, healing and as a means of self-exploration.

Eilish Langton has taken up the role as interim Creative Places Bagenalstown coordinator while David Francis Moore in on leave.



## SEIRBHÍŚÍ OIÐHREACHTA/HERITAGE SERVICES

### **Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN):**

The inaugural meeting of the four selected community groups from County Carlow, namely, Naomh Eoin GAA Heritage Group, Carlow Historical and Archaeological Society, St. Mary's CBS School in Carlow town and Cranavane Holy Well Committee took place as an in-person meeting, in Carlow Library on Thursday 3 July 2025. The focus of the meeting was to strengthen the connectedness between the iCAN communities and focus on the design, look and functionality of the forthcoming page on the iCAN website. Each group along with the Heritage Officer will have a dedicated portion of the Carlow page to showcase relevant research and initiatives. The meeting took place with the involvement of Louise Kennedy (Carlow County Council, Archivist) and Christopher Power (Carlow County Council, Local Studies and Genealogy). The first online training delivered by iCAN took place on Thursday 31 July explaining how to scan images and resolutions required for image use on websites.

### **26<sup>th</sup> Columbanus Weekend:**

The Heritage Office was pleased to support with funding, the publication of a colour brochure on the history of the Cathedral of the Assumption, coordinated by Carlow Tourism as part of the international celebration of the Columbanus Weekend. The Heritage Officer attended the series of successful events on Saturday 12 July 2025 in Myshall, Carlow.

### **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2026:**

The Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2026 was announced by Minister James Browne, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on Friday 25 July along with Historic Thatch Buildings 2026. The scheme was advertised in the local newspaper and applications will be accepted up to 5:30pm on Friday 26 September 2025.

### **Carlow's Launch of Heritage Week 2025:**

Carlow County Council launched Heritage Week 2025 on 29 July 2025 in Carlow Central Library, Tullow Street, Carlow. The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Ken Murnane launched Heritage Week 2025 and unveiled the framed illustration, recounting the presentations delivered at the Annual Carlow Heritage Seminar 2025 earlier in April this year. The artwork will now reside in the library for the public to engage with over the years ahead. The launch was well attended by the Heritage Week event organisers who availed of the opportunity to collect the Heritage Week merchandise to use at their events.

### **Heritage Week 2025:**

Heritage Week 2025 took place from 16-24 August with the theme of 'Exploring Our Foundations'. The week saw fifty events take place around the County, making it the largest Heritage Week in County Carlow to date. The radio campaign organised in collaboration with Kilkenny Heritage Office on KCLR had a refocus upon playing recordings of events delivered throughout the week. The events were a celebration by community groups of the heritage of the County, supported by Carlow County Council (notable projects funded by the Heritage Council's Community Heritage Grants Scheme). Other events were County Council events showcasing the work undertaken by the County Council in partnership with community groups.

Carlow Libraries delivered a series of heritage focussed workshops and events that catered for 150 children, all free to attend. Carlow Sports Partnership organised a series of walks engaging with natural, built and cultural heritage and strengthened community events by organising and delivered old style games for children. Shane Casey (Biodiversity Officer, Environment) organised a half-day seminar looking at Carlow Farming for Nature in Myshall. Carlow also hosted its first Irish language event in Heritage Week since 2021 or earlier, with Cranavane Holy Well Committee in Kildavin running a workshop on deciphering the placenames of the local area through Irish. The feedback was positive, and we look forward to 2026.

### **Historic Towns Initiative Plan- Heritage-led Regeneration for Carlow Town:**

A small research-based test excavation took place in the front lawn of Carlow College, St. Patrick's, Carlow from 19-22 August 2025. The excavation was planned to take place in Heritage Week 2025 as we were literally exploring our foundations of Carlow Town, as an action of the *Historic Towns initiative Plan- Heritage-led Regeneration for Carlow Town*, adopted by Carlow County Council earlier in 2025. The excavation under the direction of Barry Lacey proved that one of the anomalies identified through a geophysical survey (funded by Community Monuments Fund in 2024 under the Carlow Wall Town Project) was representative of a 1m deep seventeenth century ditch of probable defensive nature. A range of soil, environment and dating samples will be analysed in post-excavation to determine further scientific analysis and finds conservation.

The project design stage included the production of a series of three videos to recount the progress of the first research-based archaeological excavation undertaken by Carlow County Council. The videos were released in a routine manner on social media and will be hosted and archived on the Carlow Libraries u-tube channel. Special thanks to all in the Carlow MD Local Area office for logistical support throughout the project and Carlow College, St. Patrick's for granting permission to allow the archaeological excavation take place.





## MÚSAEM CHONTAE CHEATHARLACH/CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM

### Opening Hours:

From June 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> the Museum and Tourist Office were opened seven days a week for June, July, and August.

### Visitor Numbers:

The Museum and Tourist Office recorded 9,000 visitors from January to June 2025. This is an increase of 2,100 on the same period last year. Considering reports of flat tourist visitor numbers across the country this is good to see that we are bucking the national trend.

### XXVI Columbanus Day:

Museum staff were part of the organising committee that coordinated the St Columbanus celebrations in July. The committee was coordinated by Bishop Denis Nulty and had a variety of representatives from the local authority, community, and religious organisations.

### Exhibition Launch: Ireland and the Birth of Europe:

As part of the XXVI Columbanus Weekend celebrations the Museum was the first venue to hold an event for the weekend, with the launch of the exhibition 'Ireland and the Birth of Europe' in partnership with the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, the Shared Ireland Initiative and Creative Ireland, Carlow. The exhibition was launched by Professor Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, University of Galway, and Bishop Denis Nulty. The exhibition explores the early Irish monastic scholars who left Ireland for the continent, including Carlow born St Columbanus. Among the large crowd gathered for the launch was Archbishop Luis Mariano Montemayor, Papal Nuncio and Her Excellency Florence Enschedé, Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to Ireland. The exhibition will be in the Museum until October.

### Visit by An Taoiseach to Luxembourg:

In July as part of his official visit to Luxembourg, An Taoiseach Micheál Martin was escorted by Luxembourg Prime Minister Luc Frieden on a visit to Echternach. As part of their visit, they were received by Mayor Carole Hartmann, Ville d'Echternach, members of the Willibrordus-Bauverein (Willibrord Society), and the Dean of the Basilica of St Willibrord. They explored the connection between Carlow and Echternach and heard about the recent re-connection over the last twenty-five years.

### Sugar Factory 1925 Poster:

The Museum presented a copy of the 100<sup>th</sup> year old Carlow Nationalist printed poster seeking public support for the establishment of the Sugar Factory in Carlow, for display in the Town Hall where the famous meeting took place on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1925. The original poster is on display in Carlow County Museum. The meeting was pivotal in demonstrating to Lippens, the Belgium company chosen by the Irish government to establish a sugar factory in Ireland, that Carlow was the place to build the factory.



**Heritage Council MSPI Awards:**

At the annual Heritage Council's Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI) award ceremony, Carlow County Museum staff were invited to attend and represent the Local Authority Museums' Network (LAMN).

**Heritage Week 2025:**

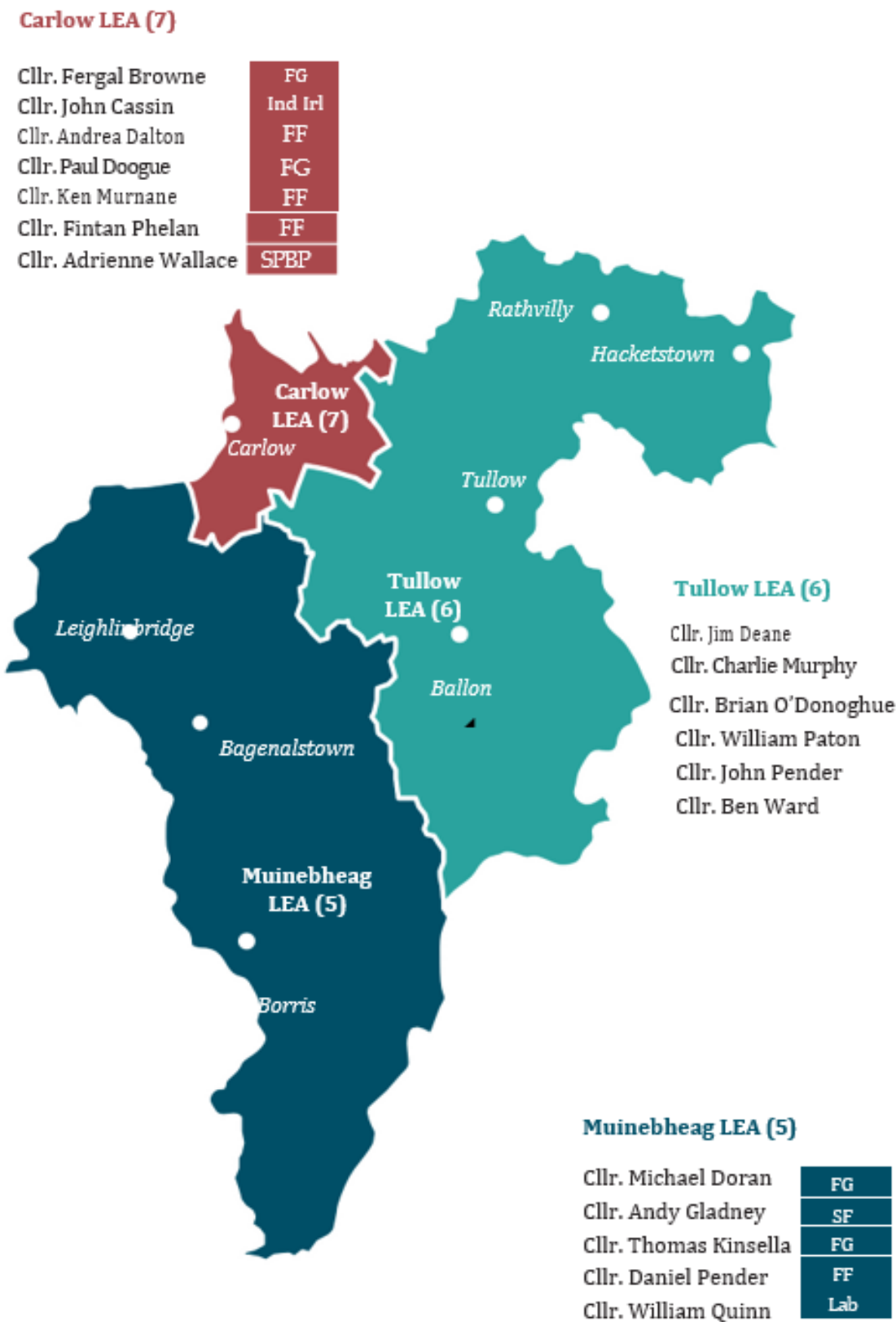
Heritage Week in the county is coordinated by the Heritage Office. The Museum organised a series of guided tours of the Museum along with events for our two temporary exhibitions, Ireland and the Birth of Europe and Dreamtime Ireland.

**Dreamtime Ireland Exhibition:**

The Summer Season at VISUAL ended on August 31<sup>st</sup>. The main exhibition, Dreamtime Ireland, an exhibition and research project by artist Sean Lynch, was hosted by both VISUAL and Carlow County Museum. The joint exhibition proved very successful and encouraged visitors between both locations.

**Museum Staff:**

Recently Darren Kelly completed his time on the Community Employment Scheme. He has been replaced by Yuriy Korposh.





Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

158

**Our Ref:** HD/MNR/PJ/2025/255

1<sup>st</sup> July, 2025

**Carlow County Council  
County Buildings  
Athy Road  
Carlow**

Dear Local Authority,

The following was resolved and agreed by the members at a meeting of Waterford City and County Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2025.

*"Waterford City & County Council calls upon the Central Bank to take all possible steps to discontinue facilitating the sale of Israeli bonds."*

Please quote our reference number on all correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

**Honor Dunphy**  
**Meetings Administrator**  
[hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie](mailto:hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie)



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

159

Our Ref: PJ/2025/256

Carlow County Council  
County Buildings  
Athy Road  
Carlow

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

The following was resolved and agreed by the members at a meeting of Waterford City and County Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 members asked that it be forwarded to you.

*"Carers Allowance and Benefit Reform*

*That the members of Waterford City and County Council call on the Minister for Social Protection Mr. Dara Calleary, to abolish means testing for Carers Allowance in Budget 2026. We further call on the Minister to introduce a fair and adequate payment for recipients of Carers Allowance and Carers Benefit one which truly reflects the time, dedication and compassionate care that carers provided everyday across Ireland".*

Please quote our reference number.

Yours sincerely,



Honor Dunphy  
Meetings Administrator  
[hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie](mailto:hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie)

cc: Mr. Dara Callery TD, Minister for Social Protection  
Mr. Jack Chambers TD, Minister for Expenditure

Áras an Chontae,  
Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh  
H91 H6KX.

Áras an Chontae,  
Prospect Hill, Galway,  
H91 H6KX.

Fón/Phone: (091) 509 800  
Idirlíon/Web: [www.gaillimh.ie](http://www.gaillimh.ie)  
[www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie)

 @GalwayCountyCouncil  
 @GalwayCoCo  
 @GalwayCountyCouncil

Seirbhísí Custaiméara  
Customer Services  
(091) 509 000  
[customerservices@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:customerservices@galwaycoco.ie)

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha  
Corporate Services  
(091) 509 225  
[corpserv@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:corpserv@galwaycoco.ie)

Tithíocht  
Housing  
(091) 509 300  
[housing@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:housing@galwaycoco.ie)

Pleanáil  
Planning  
(091) 509 308  
[planning@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:planning@galwaycoco.ie)

Timpeallacht & Tréidiacht  
Environment & Veterinary  
(091) 509 510  
[environment@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:environment@galwaycoco.ie)

Infrastruchtúr fisiciúil  
agus Ailrú Aeráide  
Physical Infrastructure  
and Climate Change  
(091) 509 309  
[roads@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:roads@galwaycoco.ie)

Acmhainní Daonna  
Human Resources  
(091) 509 303  
[hr@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:hr@galwaycoco.ie)

Mótarachán  
Motor Taxation  
(091) 509 099  
[motortax@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:motortax@galwaycoco.ie)

Clár na dToghthóirí  
Register of Electors  
(091) 509 310  
[electors@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:electors@galwaycoco.ie)

Forbairt Tuaithe agus Pobail  
agus Imeascadh  
Rural and Community  
Development and Integration  
(091) 509 521  
[community@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:community@galwaycoco.ie)

Leabharlann  
Library  
(091) 509 383  
[info@galwaylibrary.ie](mailto:info@galwaylibrary.ie)



## CC1-1a-0025 – July 2025 Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Galway County Council

LK/tc

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

Mr. Bernard Gloster,  
CEO's Office, HSE,  
Dr. Steevens' Hospital  
Steeven's Lane,  
Dublin 8,  
D08 W2A8

[ceo.office@hse.ie](mailto:ceo.office@hse.ie)

### RE: Resolution of Galway County Council – Announcement of HSE to Downgrade Portiuncula Hospital

A chara,

At the July meeting of Galway County Council, the following resolution was passed:

*Galway County Council reaffirms its strong support for Portiuncula University Hospital, as recognised under Special Policy Objective H4 of the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028, and acknowledges PUH's long term strategic importance in the county and beyond as a provider of essential healthcare services and also as a major employer and economic driver in Co Galway.*

*-Galway County Council calls on the Minister for Health and CEO HSE to support PUH's critical role in maternity care provision in the county and to recognise Portiuncula UH's strategic location as the most accessibly located maternity unit in the country just 800 meters off the M6 in providing crucial timely accessible maternity care for mothers infants and families across a wide and rural catchment in County Galway and to communities in Roscommon, Westmeath, Longford, Leitrim, Offaly, North Tipperary and beyond. Restriction of maternity services poses serious risks to women and infants, especially those in rural and socioeconomically disadvantaged areas with poor transport where they are now facing much increased travel times and reduced local access to crucial maternity services.*

*-Galway County Council calls on the Minister for Health and CEO HSE to seek development of an immediate plan for reinstatement of high quality safe maternity services at PUH, with allocation of the necessary funding & resources for full implementation.*


*-Galway County Council asks the Minister for Health if she will commission a fully independent external review of maternity services across the county and comprehensively examine risk assessments and consequences of any maternity care downgrade in the wider area served including the ability of receiving maternity units to safely absorb additional patient load, given capacity, staffing, and infrastructure challenges.*

*A copy of this motion is sent to the Oireachtas Joint Health Committee, all Oireachtas Elected Representatives for the area, and all local authorities.*

I would be obliged if you could consider and revert to me with your views on the above Motion so that I can advise the Elected Members.

Please arrange to reply directly to Ms. Liadhan Keady, County Secretary at [secretary@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:secretary@galwaycoco.ie)

Mise, le meas,



Ms. Liadhan Keady  
County Secretary

**Comhairle Contae  
Loch Garman**



© Comhaltas  
**Fleadh Cheoil  
na hÉireann**  
2024 - 2025 Wexford

**Wexford**  
County Council

**County Secretary**

MD/ZP

14<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

**Memo to All Local Authorities**

**To Whom It May Concern**

At the June Meeting of Wexford County Council the Members passed the following motion:

*"That this Council calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne TD to amend Section 12 of the Residential Tenancy Act 2004 to eliminate blanket bans on pets in tenancy agreements thereby reducing the number of pets being surrendered and abandoned. If passed, this motion is circulated to all Councils nationwide."*

I would appreciate if you could note the view of the Members and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

**Michael Drea,**  
**County Secretary**  
**e-mail:** [michael.drea@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:michael.drea@wexfordcoco.ie)  
**Phone:** 053 9196260



**Comhairle Contae  
Loch Garman  
Wexford County  
Council** | An Charraig Leathan, Loch Garman  
Carricklawn, Wexford Y35 WY93  
053 919 6000 | [customerservice@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:customerservice@wexfordcoco.ie)  
[www.wexfordcoco.ie](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie) | [www.twitter.com/wexfordcoco](https://www.twitter.com/wexfordcoco)





COMHAIRLE | CLARE  
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.

Our Ref: July25 – 15/JC/AC

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the July meeting of Clare County Council, the members passed the following resolution and agreed that this request should be circulated to all local authorities:

“Clare County Council calls on the Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, James Browne T.D, to review and amend the terms of the Defective Concrete Block Scheme to allow for applications, where individuals are living long term in supported housing provided by charitable bodies. These are the homes of these individuals & deserve equality of treatment with all other homeowners. If passed, that the motion be circulated to all LA's.”

Yours sincerely,

**John Corry,**  
**A/Senior Executive Officer,**  
**Corporate Services Department,**  
**Rural Development Directorate.**

**An Rannóg Seirbhísí Corparáideacha**  
**An Stiúrthóireacht um Fhorbairt Tuaithe**  
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

**Corporate Services Department**  
**Rural Development Directorate**

Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2





Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Luimnigh  
**Limerick City  
& County Council**

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach

Corporate Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick

**EIRCODE** V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 557150  
f: +353 (0) 61 415 266

**24<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.**

**TO: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY**

A Chara,

I write to inform you that at the July Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for support:

**"I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council write to the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, James Lawless, stating that this District condemn any future attempt by the Government to reinstate the €3,000 college contribution fee for students given the increased financial burden that this will place on students and their families".**

Is mise le meas,

  
**Aedín Foley,**  
**Meetings Administrator.**



8 August 2025

TO: Each Local Authority

### Re: Galway City Council Resolution

A Chara,

At the July meeting of Galway City Council held 14 July 2025, the Members passed the following resolution under Agenda Items 8 Correspondence, 8(a). Donegal County Council: Dismantling of the Triple Lock.

"It was proposed that a letter of support issue in relation to the motion passed by Donegal County Council (copy attached) calling to safeguard the Triple Lock component of Irish neutrality. It was further agreed to circulate same to all authorities for their consideration."

At the request of the Council, I am circulating this motion to all Local Authorities for the attention of Elected Members.

Mise, le meas,

Martha Duddy,  
Administrative Officer,  
Corporate Services.

Cc. Cllr. Niall McNelis.

#### **[www.GalwayCity.ie](http://www.GalwayCity.ie)**

Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:  
+353 (0)91 536400

Rphost: [SeirbhisDoChustaimeir@GalwayCity.ie](mailto:SeirbhisDoChustaimeir@GalwayCity.ie)

Email: [CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie](mailto:CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie)

Meáin/ Media: [Communications@GalwayCity.ie](mailto:Communications@GalwayCity.ie)

Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

**Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.  
Correspondence in Irish is welcome.**

Halla na Cathrach, Bóthar an Choláiste, Gaillimh,  
H91 X4K8

City Hall, College Road, Galway, H91 X4K8



**Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

166

[www.ccdhunnangall.ie](http://www.ccdhunnangall.ie) [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

13<sup>th</sup> June, 2025

**To: Each Local Authority**

**Re: Dismantling of the Triple Lock**

Dear Meetings Administrator,

I write to inform you that the members of Donegal County Council at their recent meeting resolved to adopt the following resolution:

*"Do Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall, mar mheabhrúchán gur ghlac Comhairle na hEorpa le Dearbhú Seville i mí an Mheithimh 2002, rud a dheimhnigh nach raibh aon bhagairt ar neodracht na hÉireann mar thoradh ar Chonradh Nice, tugtar le fios gur dheimhnigh an Taoiseach a bhí ann ag an am, an tUasal Ahern, do Theach Laighean : "Athdhearbhaíonn an Dearbhú Náisiúnta ceangal na hÉireann le beartas neodrachta agus dearbhaíonn sé: nach bhfuil Éire páirteach in aon ghealltanais comhchosanta: go ndéanfaimid ár gcinneadh ceannasach féin maidir le ar cheart d'fhórsa cosanta na 26 Contae páirt a ghlacadh i dtascanna daonnúla nó bainistíochta géarchéime arna gcur ar bun ag an AE bunaithe ar an Ghlas Triarach ceadaithe ag na Náisiúin Aontaithe, cinneadh an Rialtais agus glactha leis ag Teach Laighean ".*

*Tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall sásta gur bhain an Dearbhú Náisiúnta Sollúnta le hionstraimí daingníocháin de chuid na hÉireann a bhain le Conradh Nice agus gur cláraíodh é ina dhiaidh sin ag na Náisiúin Aontaithe, agus gur athdhearbhaigh rialtas Cowan na gealltanais ina dhiaidh sin tar éis diúltú do Chonradh Liospóin ar dtús in 2008.*

*Mar sin féin, is mian le Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall a ndíomá a chur in iúl maidir le rún agus polasáí an Rialtais deireadh a chur leis an Ghlas Triarach, ina ndearna an Taoiseach, an tUasal Martin, cur síos air roimhe seo mar "croilár neodrachta na 26 contae".*

*I bhfianaise an rúin an riachtanas maidir le sainordú ó na Náisiúin Aontaithe a bhaint, aithníonn an Chomhairle seo freagracht na Náisiúin Aontaithe maidir le síocháin agus slándáil idirnáisiúnta a choinneáil agus tosaíocht Chairt na Náisiúin Aontaithe mar dhoiciméad bunúsach de chuid an dlí idirnáisiúnta. Léiríonn an Glas Triarach gealltanais dlíthiúil agus polaitiúil ó stát na hÉireann i leith phrionsabail na Náisiúin Aontaithe. Ag am ina bhfuil méadú ar éagobhsaíocht dhomhanda, iarrann an Chomhairle seo ar rialtas an tSaorstáit an Glas Triarach a chosaint mar chuid lárnach de neodracht na hÉireann agus brú a chur ar iarrachtaí chun síocháin agus taidhleoireacht a chur chun cinn.*

*Mar sin de tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall go láidir i gcoinne polasáí den chineál seo agus geallann siad go ndéanfar teagmháil le gach Comhairle Contae láithreach ag iarraidh orthu seasamh linn agus leis na forais rialtais cuí chun iad a chur ar an eolas faoina bhfreasúra."*

*Má cheadaítear an rún go ndéanfar é a scaipeadh ar chomhairlí eile taobh istigh den stát –*

Cuir freagra chuig: Áras an Chontae, Leifear, Contae Dhún na nGall, Éire F93 Y622  
Please reply to: County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal, Ireland F93 Y622

Guthán/Tel: 074 9153900 | Ríomhphost/Email: [info@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:info@donegalcoco.ie)

*"Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall, recalling that in June 2002 the European Council adopted the Seville Declaration, which confirmed that the Nice Treaty posed no threat to Ireland's neutrality, notes that the then Taoiseach Mr Ahern confirmed to Teach Laighean that: " The National Declaration reaffirms Ireland's attachment to a policy of neutrality and confirms that: Ireland is not party to any mutual defence commitment: that we will take our own sovereign decision on whether 26 Counties defence force should participate in humanitarian or crisis management tasks mounted by the EU based on the Triple Lock of UN endorsement, Government decision and Teach Laighean approval".*

*Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall is satisfied that the Solemn National Declaration was associated with Ireland's Instruments of ratification of the Nice Treaty and subsequently registered at the UN, while the undertakings were subsequently reiterated by the Cowan government following initial rejection of the Lisbon Treaty in 2008.*

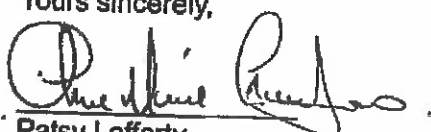
*However, Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall now wishes to express its dismay at the stated intention and policy of the Government to dismantle the Triple Lock, which the Taoiseach Mr Martin previously described as "the core of 26 counties neutrality".*

*In light of the intention to remove the requirement for a UN mandate, this Council recognises the responsibility of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security and the primacy of the UN Charter as a foundational document of international law. The Triple Lock represents a legal and political commitment by the Irish state to the principles of the UN. At a time of heightened global instability, this Council calls on the Free State government to safeguard the Triple Lock as a core component of Irish neutrality and to redouble efforts to promote peace and diplomacy.*

*Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall therefore states its forceful opposition to such a policy and pledges to immediately contact all County Councils requesting them to join us in this course of action and to inform the appropriate government organs of their opposition."*

*It was further agreed to circulate same to all other local authorities for their consideration.*

Yours sincerely,

P.P.   
Patsy Lafferty  
Meetings Administrator



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,  
Ceannteathrú Chorporáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach

Corporate Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick

8<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

EIRCODE V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 557150  
f: +353 (0) 61 415 266

**To: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY**

A Chara,

I write to advise that at the July Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, the following resolution was adopted:

**“That, Limerick City and County Council provide a liaison/link to Community Welfare where support is necessary to enable newly allocated tenants move in speedily.”**

Is mise le meas,

Ciara Farrell,  
Meetings Administrator.



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**  
**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach

Corporate Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick

8<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

EIRCODE V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 557150  
f: +353 (0) 61 415 266

**To: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY**

A Chara,

I write to advise that at the July Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, the following resolution was adopted:

**"That, Limerick City and County Council agrees to and calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to relax the current ribbon development rules to allow for the construction of 6 dwellings in a linear arrangement and, where appropriate, that restrictions be set aside entirely for sites within 1 km of an existing settlement boundary once the development is located on a non-regional road with available appropriate sightlines."**

Is mise le meas,

  
Ciara Farrell,  
Meetings Administrator.



**Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí**  
Offaly County Council

Áras an Chontae, Bóthar Charleville,  
An Tulach Mhór, Contae Uíbh Fhailí, R35 F893

Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road,  
Tullamore, Co. Offaly, R35 F893

T. 057 934 6800 | F. 057 934 6868  
E. customerservices@offalycoco.ie

offaly.ie

Mr. James Browne, TD  
Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage  
Leeson Lane,  
Dublin 2,  
D02 TR60  
minister@housing.gov.ie

14<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear Minister Browne,

At the July meeting of Offaly County Council, the members passed the following resolution:

On the proposal of Cllr. F. Moran, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey,

"That this council asks the Minister for Housing to include Part 5 houses in the "Tenant Purchase Scheme." Also to write to every council to seek support of same"

I would be obliged if you would consider and revert to me with your views on the above motion so that I can advise the Elected Members on same.

Yours faithfully

Evan Fennell  
Meetings Administrator,  
Corporate Services,  
Offaly County Council



Ceantar Bardasach Thulach Mhór  
Municipal District of Tullamore  
T. 057 935 2470

Ceantar Bardasach Bhiorra  
Municipal District of Birr  
T. 057 912 4900

Ceantar Bardasach Éadan Doire  
Municipal District of Edenderry  
T. 046 973 1256





**Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

171

[www.ccdhunnangall.ie](http://www.ccdhunnangall.ie) [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

14<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

**Re: Socio Economic Status & Equality Legislation**

Dear Meetings Administrator,

I write to inform you that the members of Donegal County Council at their recent meeting resolved to adopt the following resolution:-

*"Go dtacaíonn Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall le #cúirán10úleis (#addthe10th), comhghuaillíocht atá ag iarraidh go mbeidh stádas socheacnamaíoch aitheanta mar an 10ú bhforas de leithcheal a dhéantar, i reachtalocht um chomhionannas na 26 Contae, a dtugtar An tAcht um Stádas Comhionann agus An tAcht um Chomhionannas Fostaíochta, Nollaig 2021, orthu. Iarrann muid ar an Rialtas i mBaile Átha Cliath reachtaíocht a leagan síos don athrú rithábhachtach seo gan a thuilleadh moille".*

*"Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall supports #addthe10th an alliance which seeks to have socio- economic status recognized as the tenth ground of discrimination in the 26- Counties equality legislation, namely the Equal Status Act and the Employment Equality Act, 1 Dec 2021. We call on the Government in Baile Átha Cliath to legislate for this important change without further delay".*

It was further agreed to circulate same to all other local authorities for their consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*P. Lafferty*  
P. Lafferty  
Patsy Lafferty  
Meetings Administrator

Cuir freagra chuig: Áras an Chontae, Leifear, Contae Dhún na nGall, Éire F93 Y622  
Please reply to: County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal, Ireland F93 Y622

Guthán/Tel: 074 9153900 | Ríomhphost/Email: [info@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:info@donegalcoco.ie)





**Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

172

[www.ccdhunnangall.ie](http://www.ccdhunnangall.ie) [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

14<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

**Re: National Affordable Housing Schemes**

Dear Meetings Administrator,

I write to inform you that the members of Donegal County Council at their recent meeting resolved to adopt the following resolution:-

*"That this Council write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to express concern over the exclusion through ineligibility of County Donegal from key national affordable housing schemes, including cost rental initiatives, and to request an urgent review of the eligibility criteria and geographic rollout of such schemes to ensure they are extended to rural and peripheral counties like Donegal, where housing need is significant but often underrepresented in national policy. If passed, I would ask that this motion is circulated to all other local authorities.*

It was further agreed to circulate same to all other local authorities for their consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*P. Patsy Lafferty*

Patsy Lafferty  
Meetings Administrator

Cuir freagra chuig: Áras an Chontae, Lifford, Contae Dhún na nGall, Éire F93 Y622  
Please reply to: County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal, Ireland F93 Y622

Guthán/Tel: 074 9153900 | Ríomhphost/Email: [info@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:info@donegalcoco.ie)

# IRISH POSTMASTERS' UNION

Pier 19, 6/8 Usher's Island, Dublin 8, D08 K0TE.

Telephone: 01-677 6863 Email: [postunion@postmasters.ie](mailto:postunion@postmasters.ie)

Web: [www.communityandpostoffice.ie](http://www.communityandpostoffice.ie)



173

25<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear Cathaoirleach,

As General Secretary of the Irish Postmasters' Union, I am writing to seek your valued support for Irish Post Offices and the crucial role we play in our Communities across Ireland.

We respectfully request your support in raising a motion at your next Council meeting, calling on the Government to commit to investing €15 million annually in the Irish Post Office Network. Your support is essential to securing this crucial investment, ensuring Post Offices can continue delivering vital services and promoting community well-being and local economic development.

Post Offices are key drivers of economic renewal, maintaining the circulation of money and delivering essential local services. By doing so, we help create stronger, more vibrant Communities that can better support residents and local businesses.

The Irish Post Office Network processes approximately 84 million transactions each year, amounting to a total value of €14 billion, including €7 billion in welfare cash payments. Additionally, we provide essential banking and financial services to micro and small businesses, particularly in areas where traditional banks have withdrawn. Approximately 540 Post Offices nationwide operate in areas without any banks within a 5km radius, underlining our vital role in supporting local business growth and Community resilience.

In many communities, Post Offices are the only providers of essential government services, particularly for vulnerable individuals and families who may not have digital literacy or access to online platforms. Our role in combating social exclusion and providing reliable face-to-face services is widely recognised and highly valued.

The closure of Post Offices significantly impacts Communities, severely affecting marginalised individuals, reducing access to critical services, and weakening local economies. Your influential voice is vital in advocating for a strong and sustainable Post Office Network.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting to explore ways we can collaborate further.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support and commitment to our Communities.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Tormey  
General Secretary  
Irish Postmasters' Union